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Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly

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I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 68/307, the General Assembly decided to establish, at its sixty-ninth session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-ninth session.

2. In that resolution, the General Assembly also decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group should continue its review of the inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session (A/68/951), and, as a result, to continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-ninth session. The present report and the recommendations contained herein are submitted pursuant to the provisions of that resolution.

3. During the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the President of the Assembly appointed Ambassador Vladimir Drobnjak, Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations, and Ambassador Wilfried Emvula, Permanent Representative of Namibia to the United Nations, as Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group.

4. Before the formal beginning of the Working Group's deliberations, the Co-Chairs conducted informal bilateral meetings with representatives of various Member States and a variety of political groups. During those meetings, the Co-Chairs benefited extensively from the insights and ideas of Member States on both the substance and the technical and procedural aspects of the revitalization process.

II. Proceedings

5. The Working Group held six meetings, on 3 March, 19 March, 14 April, 27 April, 12 May and 2 September 2015.

6. The programme of work was organized into two practical stages, as follows: general discussion and exchange of views; and thematic meetings. The themes identified by the Co-Chairs for consideration in the four thematic meetings comprised:

(a) The role and authority of the General Assembly;

(b) The working methods of the Assembly;

(c) The selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system;

(d) The strengthening of the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

A. General discussion

7. The first meeting of the Working Group was convened by its Co-Chairs on 3 March. Following introductory remarks by the President of the General Assembly and the Co-Chairs, the participants in the meeting heard interventions from 20 delegations, including on behalf of major groups.

8. The President of the General Assembly highlighted the central position of the Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations and hence the critical importance of the Working Group's deliberations. Emphasizing that revitalization of the work of the Assembly contributed to the overall strengthening of the Organization, he remarked that he had made it a priority to engage regularly with the Presidents of other principal organs, so as to bolster coordination and coherence, as well as with the Secretary-General. Underlining the important role of the General Committee, he highlighted the first ever luncheon with its members that was convened during the main part of the sixty-ninth session. He also stressed his commitment to engaging with civil society and other stakeholders. The President further emphasized the importance of implementation of Assembly resolutions and the need to improve the working methods of the Assembly, in particular those of the Fifth Committee. He also identified a review of the modalities for the election of judges to the International Court of Justice as an area of potential interest to the Working Group. Commenting on the annual general debate in the Assembly, the President underlined the importance of protecting its integrity through better coordination and distribution of events during the high-level week. He also hoped that the Ad Hoc Working Group would contribute to advancing the transparency and inclusiveness of the selection process of the Secretary-General. As to the perceived increased workload of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, he stressed the need for adequate and predictable resources, including from the regular budget.

9. Emphasizing the Working Group's cross-cutting agenda, the Co-Chairs encouraged the full and active participation of Member States in the Ad Hoc Working Group during the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, while underlining in particular the forthcoming celebrations of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations. In this regard, the Co-Chairs encouraged Member States to work towards a tangible and successful outcome during this session.

10. A group of States reaffirmed the role and authority of the General Assembly (cluster 1), including in questions of peace and security, as well as the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations. The group reiterated its objection to what it perceived as the continuous encroachment by the Security Council on the work of the Assembly. Another group recognized the importance of interaction between the Assembly and international or regional forums and other organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, including civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. Many speakers stressed the importance of implementation of General Assembly resolutions, with some calling for practical proposals to monitor their implementation. Some also expressed disappointment over what they saw as the limited outcomes reached thus far in restoring the role and authority of the General Assembly, while at the same time, the good work during the sixty-eighth session had been widely welcomed and various specific outcomes had been seized upon, such as the early election of members of the Economic and Social Council and of the non-permanent members of

the Security Council at least six months in advance of the beginning of their terms of office.

11. On the issue of the working methods of the General Assembly (cluster 2), general support was expressed for improving the efficiency of the Assembly and the Main Committees, which was felt by some should be the priority focus of the Ad Hoc Working Group. Among the issues raised in this context was the need for a lightening of the workload during the high-level week so as to alleviate the pressure on the schedules of world leaders and to allow for a sharper focus on the general debate. The need was also identified to ensure that the Assembly worked "smarter", including, for instance, by determining deadlines for objectives, clustering topics, establishing sunset clauses, when appropriate, and refraining from adopting resolutions on what was termed "outdated items". Furthermore, a group of countries highlighted the need for rationalizing the agendas of both the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in order to avoid duplication in their respective programmes of work, citing resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council in this regard. Rationalization should furthermore include biennialization, triennialization and clustering of items. At the same time, it was underlined that the elimination of topics must always be based on the consent of the sponsoring States. One speaker, who agreed on the urgency of addressing working methods, also considered it as providing the greatest opportunity for making tangible improvements. Another delegation seized upon the modalities for the election of the judges to the International Court of Justice. The timely provision of official documents in the six official languages of the Organization was also urged, while others insisted on the desirability of an overall reduction in the volume of reports.

12. On the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system (cluster 3), attention was paid in the first instance to the process of the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, with many delegations underlining the relevance and timeliness of considering this cluster during the sixty-ninth session, and, therefore, prior to the expected next selection process, in 2016. In this regard, many called for greater transparency and inclusiveness and for the Assembly to have a more meaningful role to play. The holding of informal meetings for the purpose of interactive hearings with candidates was raised as a possible step in this direction. A number of speakers also argued in favour of reviewing resolution 11 (I) of 1946, which, inter alia, calls for the Security Council to proffer one candidate only. At the same time, the importance of the principles of regional rotation and gender equality were noted as important factors in the consideration of candidates during the selection process. The need to identify criteria for the post was also noted among the interventions. Some even called for reconsidering the term of office itself, including through the option of establishing a single term of longer duration. One delegation recalled the possibility of a secret ballot. Yet, other delegations strongly reaffirmed Article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations, noting that the Secretary-General shall be appointed by the Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council, and therefore insisted that the selection and appointment process of the Secretary-General was already clearly defined.

13. Regarding the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the strengthening of its institutional memory (cluster 4), several delegations highlighted the importance they attached to ensuring the Office's efficiency and effectiveness.

In this connection, one group of States stressed the need to ensure adequate and predictable budgetary support, including from the regular budget of the United Nations, even as another delegation reaffirmed that any such consideration would need to take place in strict accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, that is to say in the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee. Further enhancement of the smoothness of transition from one presidency to the next was also raised, including through codifying best practices and lessons learned. In this context, one group suggested that greater cooperation between incumbent and incoming Presidents of the General Assembly could prove most useful.

14. The Co-Chairs assured delegations that each of the four clusters would receive due attention, while taking note of the divergence of views and positions on them during the general exchange.

B. Thematic meetings

First thematic meeting: the role and authority of the General Assembly

15. In the course of the second meeting, which was also the first thematic meeting, held on 19 March 2015, 14 delegations intervened, including on behalf of major groups. Following opening remarks by the Co-Chairs, who reiterated their desire to move the issue and process forward on the basis of the views and positions expressed by the members, a briefing was provided by the Department of Public Information.

16. The Director of the Outreach Division and Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Public Information provided a briefing pursuant to resolution 68/307 concerning raising the visibility of the Assembly and enhancing, in the light of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization. This, it was noted, was being carried out as part of raising the overall visibility of the United Nations through several media and outreach platforms. He stressed that the Department of Public Information was guided by the Committee on Information, which provided it with an opportunity to hear directly from Member States and to present to them plans and activities in relation to the anniversary. Activities so far included online campaigns on issues such as climate change, the post-2015 development agenda and financing for development. The support provided to the Office of the President was further underlined, with one staff member from the Department being seconded every year in order to maximize coverage of the work of the Assembly and the President, including through the publication of a press kit, the updating of the President's website and daily coverage of the Assembly's activities, which, it was noted, was higher than ever. A number of activities planned to mark the anniversary was mentioned, including a special website produced in all six official languages; a special anniversary issue of *UN Chronicle* in which experts and prominent world figures would examine the landmark achievements of the Organization and identify future challenges; issuance of a special edition of the Charter of the United Nations; and an online exhibition entitled "70 years, 70 documents", exhibiting feature milestone documents marking the development of the Organization. Furthermore, a social media team was actively promoting the anniversary with the hashtag *#UN70*. Each United Nations

Information Centre was also encouraged to mark the anniversary in conjunction with the United Nations system and local partners, especially Member States.

17. In the subsequent debate, speakers generally reiterated their support for strengthening the role and authority of the General Assembly, calling as well for the full implementation of existing provisions in its relevant resolutions. While one group emphasized the relationship between the Assembly and other principal organs — and focused on what it perceived to be the continuous encroachment by the Security Council on the work of the Assembly — another group highlighted the importance of increasing the efficiency, and thus the strength and effectiveness, of the working methods of the Assembly. One group, underlining that revitalization was a political, not merely a procedural process, reiterated that revitalization deserved to be considered in tandem with other reform processes and important topics. Another group was of the view that the General Assembly ought to be able to take relevant action on issues of common concern as the only intergovernmental body with universal membership, while, at the same time, reiterating that strengthening it should be based on the effective and efficient use of available funding and that it was paramount that the Assembly continued to increase its efficiency.

18. The importance of continuing to raise the Assembly's visibility was underscored, and the work of the Department of Public Information was welcomed in this respect, with Member States encouraging it to re-double its efforts to increase awareness of the work of the Organization and of the Assembly. One group specifically commended the creation by the Secretariat of a link on the General Assembly website dedicated to its revitalization. The importance of the Office of the President of the General Assembly in raising the Assembly's visibility was also highlighted, with some arguing that the Office should be supported effectively with appropriate resources. One group emphasized the importance of publicizing the activities of the Assembly in all six official languages and in an equal manner, and stressed that budgetary concerns should not undermine that endeavour.

19. Regarding the relationship among principal organs, many delegations raised concerns over what they perceived as encroachment by the Security Council on the powers and functions of the Assembly, including in the fields of setting norms, law making and administrative and budgetary matters, recalling in particular the Charter of the United Nations, which entrusted those functions to the General Assembly. In this context, reporting by the Security Council to the Assembly was highlighted, and the annual report of the Council was underlined as an essential element in upholding the principles of accountability and transparency. Those delegations supported the institutionalization of consultations prior to the preparation of the annual report to the Assembly, while nonetheless requesting a more analytical and comprehensive report and expressing regret that since the adoption of resolution 58/126, no periodic subject-oriented reports had been submitted to the Assembly. Other delegations stressed the need and importance to respect the clearly defined co-equal relationship between the Assembly and the Security Council as established in the Charter of the United Nations, and cautioned against any proposals that may alter the well-established balance between them. In this regard, concern was expressed about the General Assembly becoming involved in defining the working methods of the Council; it was underscored that any innovations needed to respect the balance of powers of the main organs as set out in the Charter.

20. The benefit of regular meetings among the presidents of the principal organs was highlighted. In this respect, one group called for better coordination of the respective programmes of activities of the principal organs and expressed the view that the aim should be to work in unity, which this group viewed as indispensable to effectively addressing the increasingly overloaded agenda of the Organization. Avoiding duplication between the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council was raised as another path towards enhancing the role and authority of the Assembly. General Assembly resolution 68/1 on strengthening the Economic and Social Council was recalled in this regard. One delegation specifically called for a more focused agenda of the Assembly as an essential factor in strengthening its authority, including through removing what it described as outdated items. Noting the relevance it attached to the Special Committee on the Charter and on the Strengthening of the role of the Organization, one group supported the proposal for the creation of an open-ended working group on the implementation of the Charter regarding the functional relationship of its organs.

21. A range of different views was expressed regarding the relationship between the General Assembly and other stakeholders, with one group reaffirming the intergovernmental nature of the United Nations and drawing attention to the necessity of consulting with Member States on initiatives undertaken within the Organization. Another group was vocal in its support for enhanced interaction between the Assembly and civil society, and in this context spotlighted the benefit of continuous interaction of the Assembly with other regional and global actors, citing as an example the regular dialogue between the United Nations and the Group of 20, as well as with the private sector. Yet another group, while also reaffirming the contributions made by civil society, argued that this type of interaction should be arranged with due respect to the essential intergovernmental character of the Organization and the priority that Member States should have in addressing the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies.

22. The implementation of General Assembly resolutions was considered essential in enhancing the role and authority of the Assembly. Several speakers welcomed the updated inventory chart prepared by the Secretariat as a very useful tool. One group reiterated its call for the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on a non-selective basis. Noting the growing number and complexity of requests to the Secretariat, the group proposed the elaboration of a comprehensive assessment mechanism, that included reasons for lack of implementation, modelled on the traditional inventory chart, which focused exclusively on revitalization of the work of the General Assembly. One delegation criticized what it perceived as failure by the Secretariat to carry out instructions in General Assembly resolutions and highlighted the need for better communication between the Secretariat and Member States regarding organizational and logistical matters, ranging from access to documents to access to the building. To this end, the delegation proposed setting up a standing committee to deal with relations between permanent missions and the Secretariat of the United Nations.

23. The holding of high-level interactive thematic debates was also underlined, in particular their value in contributing to the interactive and inclusive character of the Assembly. At the same time, it was stressed that those debates should not coincide with periods of special high demand among Member States, and it was stressed that serious consideration should be given to the idea of holding a second week of high-level meetings in the second quarter of the year. Regarding the work of the Main

Committees, it was also recalled that the long-term arrangements for the pattern of rotation of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees was to be presented to the Assembly at its seventy-second session.

24. The Co-Chairs noted the views expressed, acknowledging in particular the suggestions made for a better distribution of high-level meetings throughout the session and for the establishment of a second high-level week in the spring.

Second thematic meeting: the working methods of the General Assembly

25. The third meeting of the Working Group, which was also its second thematic meeting, was convened by the Co-Chairs on 14 April 2015. Following introductory remarks by the Co-Chairs, the meeting participants heard briefings from the Chairs of the First, Fourth, Second, Third, Fifth and Sixth Committees. During the interactive question-and-answer period that followed, one delegation posed questions, eliciting responses from various Chairs of the Main Committees. In the last part of the meeting, dedicated to delegations' general statements, 12 speakers, including on behalf of major groups, took the floor.

26. In opening the meeting, the Co-Chairs drew attention to a joint letter dated 13 April 2015 from the Chairs of the six Main Committees, addressed to the President of the General Assembly. The letter, they noted, contained proposals to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly. The Chair of the Second Committee, on behalf of the other Chairs, and in their respective individual capacity, presented the contents of the letter. Adding that many of the suggestions therein did not necessitate "huge overhauls of the normative framework of the General Assembly", it was suggested that the proposals instead envisaged the full implementation of the Assembly's revitalization resolutions. Those proposals specifically included bringing forward to April the Main Committees' bureaux elections; holding incoming and outgoing bureaux meetings immediately thereafter; improving the budgetary review process for proposals; and possibly establishing an informal coordination mechanism between the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of Main Committees to allow for better coordination.

Briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees

27. The Chair of the First Committee noted that the Committee's working methods had evolved over the past 25 years with regard to rationalizing and streamlining the agenda. Key highlights of the structure of the work of the Committee were offered in terms of its general debate, thematic discussions, and action on draft resolutions. Regarding the general debate, allusion was made to the question of the speaking order of observers. Regarding the thematic discussions, the Chair noted that those were inaugurated with annual exchanges with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high- level officials, and concluded with an exchange with non-governmental organizations. In this regard, the Chair advised that, as of the seventieth session, non-governmental organizations would speak at the end of the general debate.

28. The Chair of the Fourth Committee noted that, traditionally, 13 items were allocated to that Committee, and that most were being considered on an annual basis. He also indicated that this number had risen to 15 during the current session, and, in this respect, stressed the commitment of the Committee to continue to put forward proposals for the biennialization and clustering of items, adding that five

items related to decolonization, for instance, had thus far been clustered. The particular practice of holding hearings of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories and petitioners early in the session was highlighted, and it was noted that the number of petitioners should be synchronized with the programme of work. Referring to the structure of the work of the Committee, the Chair stated that general debates, which preceded the adoption of proposals, also included interactive dialogues. Providing further detail regarding efforts to maximize time, the Chair noted the benefits that had been derived from the use of the Committee's internal website, as well as the timely conclusion of its work at the sixty-seventh, sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions. Acknowledging the importance of fostering collaboration and cooperation among the Chairs of the Committees, the Chair pointed to the convening of a joint ad hoc meeting of the First and the Fourth Committees in the fall as an important effort. In reference to the elections of the Chairs, the Fourth Committee recommended for the forthcoming session a balanced rotation of the post of rapporteur among the regional groups that was in accordance with the rotation of the Chair for the seventieth and seventy-first sessions. In closing, the Chair requested consistency in the use of the name and order of the placing of the Fourth Committee (after the First Committee) in accordance with rule 98 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly.

29. The Chair of the Second Committee indicated that the Committee had adopted by recorded vote more draft resolutions during this session than in the past few and highlighted the holding of joint meetings with the Economic and Social Council. Proposals arising from the meetings of the Committee aiming to improve its working methods were also shared, including dispensing with its general debate in order to start earlier the consideration of individual agenda items, and obtaining of cost implications of draft resolutions on a timelier basis. The Chair stressed the need to provide clear guidelines to facilitators to address questions concerning the budgetary implications of draft resolutions in a manner that would not encroach on the mandate of the Fifth Committee. The need to meet deadlines for the submission of proposals and to establish a clear procedure for to request an extension for their submission was also underscored. The silence procedure, the Chair stated, was causing delays, and should be applied on an exceptional basis only. The Chair further highlighted a meeting with the chairs of the five regional groups and with the chairs of major groups that had been held in November to consult on the Committee's programme of work and encouraged future Chairs to follow up on this initiative, which had been welcomed. Emphasis was placed on reducing the duplication of work, in particular with the Economic and Social Council, given also the financing for development process and the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.

30. The Chair of the Third Committee referred to document A/C.3/68/CRP.1 as a useful source of information for mapping the working methods of the Committee. With 14 items traditionally allocated to the Committee on an annual basis, efforts at streamlining the agenda had continued. The Chair noted as an example the sub-item "Life for life: shaping future agendas", which had been triennialized during the current session, while some other items were traditionally clustered. Mentioning resolution 65/281, the Chair stated that the allocation of the "Report of the Human Rights Council" to both the plenary as well as the Third Committee remained a sensitive issue. Another question of concern, in the Chair's view, was the late issuance of important reports, many of which emanated from Geneva. Indicating

that the consideration of the clusters of items related to human rights took up the majority of the Committee's time, the Chair expressed concern at the two-fold increase in the number of rapporteurs and independent experts heard by the Committee in the past five years (53 during the current session alone), while the number of meetings remained unchanged. Despite those challenges, the Chair stressed that time management had been exemplary. Concerning decision-making, with approximately one third of the Committee's draft resolutions adopted by recorded vote, questions remained regarding the adoption of omnibus resolutions. It was noted that the adoption of comprehensive draft resolutions had not necessarily contributed to reducing the number of resolutions passed by the Committee, which was the highest on average. The benefits of the web-based facility Quickplace were underlined in this respect. The practices of elections of bureaux, which were held three months in advance of the ensuing session, and of meetings between the incoming and the outgoing bureaux, were emphasized.

31. The Chair of the Fifth Committee highlighted the importance of the discussion on working methods as a basis for identifying specific measures for improvement, and stressed the value attached to the discussions among the Chairs, which had led to the joint letter presented to the President of the General Assembly. Emphasizing the importance of bearing in mind the individual capacities of the permanent missions, the Chair called for a more equitable distribution of the workload. Noting further that the Fifth Committee comprised a wide range of players (including the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, and Member States), the Chair underscored the importance of ensuring smooth and synergistic coordination among them all. In preparing for the second resumed session of the Committee, during which consideration of 19 peacekeeping operations, 3 special political missions and the overview of cross-cutting issues was planned, the Chair emphasized the timely issuance of documentation as a key, and essential, component of the process. Mentioning that the Fifth Committee had held informal consultations on its working methods that had led to the current stocktaking stage of the Committee, the Chair moreover insisted that creating and building trust were critical for any intergovernmental process.

32. The Chair of the Sixth Committee underlined the efforts made towards making its work more focused and efficient, noting in particular the annual review of its working methods. In this context, during this review, it had surfaced that the consideration of the reports of the International Criminal Court and the United Nations international criminal tribunals in plenary should not coincide with the reports of the International Law Commission during the international law week. The Chair requested that this be acted upon urgently. Also as part of this annual review, the Uniteshare was considered useful for communication, as was the use of PaperSmart. The Chair referred to a paper on lessons learned that had been adopted by the bureau at the sixty-eighth session, underlining the importance of joint meetings between the outgoing and incoming bureaux each year, the increase of opportunities for informal briefings by delegates, and the interaction between staff of the Secretariat and members of the International Law Commission.

Interactive segment

33. Following the remarks of the Chairs of the Main Committees, one delegation posed questions during the interactive segment of the meeting, seeking clarifications

concerning the initiative contained in the joint letter initiative and noting, inter alia, that, in the context of elections being held in April, the Fifth Committee would not have yet concluded its work. The delegation also noted that the value of a new informal mechanism for coordination was unclear given that there already was such a mechanism in place, based on the rules of procedure, namely, the Assembly's General Committee. The delegation generally stressed the need to adhere to existing rules regarding the assessment of budgetary implications and noted that the Fifth Committee should have enough time to undertake such review, expressing concern over what it saw as a growing trend in other Main Committees to discuss such matters on their own. On a general point, the delegation concurred with the need for the availability of documentation on a timely basis.

34. In response, the Chair of the Second Committee, who had presented the joint letter on behalf of the Chairs of the Main Committees, along with other Chairs, reiterated the general objective of the letter, expressing the hope that it would inject new momentum towards gathering collective support for improving working methods across the Main Committees. He further clarified that despite holding bureau elections in April, the standing bureau of the existing session would remain in charge throughout the session for which it had been elected. Concerning the proposed informal mechanism, it was noted that the idea was not to replace the General Committee but to establish a platform for informal consultations. To that point, the Chair of the Fifth Committee added that concerns regarding the Fifth Committee were valid and should be considered as part of the ongoing discussion.

Statements/debate

35. In general statements, Member States expressed appreciation for the briefings and encouraged the Chairs of the Main Committees to continue the practice. They further indicated their readiness to work constructively towards improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the General Assembly. While some noted the joint letter initiative as meriting positive consideration, it was also stressed that the only places in which to consider working methods were in the Main Committees themselves as well as in the Ad Hoc Working Group. At the same time, general support was reiterated for the early elections of Chairs and bureaux, with several speakers also noting the interim arrangement contained in decision 68/505 and the relevant provisions of resolution 68/307.

36. Many delegations expressed their openness to considering proposals aimed at enhancing the scheduling of high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates. Various groups reaffirmed the centrality of the general debate as the apex of the annual session of the General Assembly and insisted on the importance of preventing the overburdening, overshadowing or dilution of the profile of the general debate. In this regard, concern was expressed at resolutions on modalities that had been adopted in the last two years that had altered the date for the start of the general debate, which was contrary to the rules of procedure. Other delegations proposed exploring how to concentrate more events, including a second ministerial meeting, in the spring. Yet another reiterated that the speakers list for the general debate should more closely reflect political realities among the membership, noting that the functions of some Heads of State were endowed with an exclusively ceremonial role.

37. Regarding the planning of meetings throughout the session, one group called upon the General Committee to better coordinate meetings to avoid simultaneous meetings of the Assembly's plenary and its subsidiary bodies that would normally require the participation of the same experts. Due regard needed to be given to the resources and capacities of permanent missions. Another Member State called for rationalizing the schedule of meetings, and also requested that greater advance notice of planned meetings be given. The importance of starting meetings on time was raised, with one delegation arguing that significant resources could be saved in this manner.

38. The need to rationalize the agenda was recognized by delegations as another potentially important step towards enhancing the quality of the consideration of topics. Several delegations in this regard raised the prospect of biennialization, triennialization, and the elimination and clustering of items. One group called on Member States to demonstrate flexibility on this issue, adding that the coordination by the Chairs of Main Committees could help facilitate in this process, and furthermore asked the Co-Chairs to prepare, with the assistance of the Secretariat, structured assessments of issues that were best qualified for streamlining. The group further called for preventing the duplication of items between the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.

39. Another delegation added that the annual inclusion and consideration of what it described as outdated and obscure items risked diluting the authority of the General Assembly, and suggested that looking at resolutions with only minor or technical updates as a first step towards rationalizing the workload of the Assembly, including through the inclusion of sunset clauses. Yet another delegation stressed that decisions on rationalization required the explicit consent of the sponsoring State and must not undermine the sovereign equality of Member States. Furthermore, the delegation suggested that the best way to streamline the agenda was by implementing the resolutions of the Assembly. In this respect, one speaker insisted on expanding the inventory chart on the status of implementation of General Assembly revitalization mandates and to include a list of all Assembly resolutions that contained mandates addressed to the Secretariat.

40. The working methods of the Fifth Committee were also raised in the deliberations. The question of the review process of programme and budgetary implications for draft resolutions was highlighted, with one group requesting the Secretariat to provide information at an earlier stage. Another delegation underlined the importance it attached to the principle of consensus-based decision-making in the Fifth Committee, warning that previous instances when the Committee had deviated from this approach had led to budgetary crises for the Organization. It further noted practical steps to improve the work of the Committee, including improving the timeliness of documentation, ensuring that coordinators were better trained, outlining realistic work programmes, and reducing the workload by less frequent consideration of items. One group highlighted what it saw as a chronic problem with the late submission in the Fifth Committee of reports in all official languages of the United Nations. It also added that experts should be empowered to continue negotiations, not leaving sensitive political issues to be dealt with by small political groupings.

41. Regarding documentation in general, one group stressed the importance of providing documents in paper format during meetings and requested an explanation

from the Secretariat of what actions had been taken and/or were intended to be taken to ensure that the United Nations Journal be issued in all six official languages. Whereas some delegations commended the use of the PaperSmart portal and of electronic resources, including the multilingual General Assembly revitalization webpage, another group cautioned that the wider use of electronic services should not be interpreted as an endorsement for the replacement of hard copies.

42. The issue of the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly was also raised. One delegation proposed that a meeting be held between the President of the General Assembly and the delegation charged with drafting the annual report of the Council and that it be followed by an interactive debate with all Member States prior to the drafting of the report by the Council. The delegation further supported the conveying by the President of the General Assembly to the President of the Security Council of a summary of recommendations regarding the report of the Council that emanated from the plenary debate in the main part of the sixty-ninth session. Also, as part of accountability practices, one group commended the practice initiated by the current Secretary-General of providing briefings on his activities to the membership in informal meetings of the General Assembly and encouraged him "to increase those encounters in the future." A number of Member States also recalled the early elections of the members of the Economic and Social Council and the non-permanent members of the Security Council as a significant outcome of the Ad Hoc Working Group during the sixty-eighth session.

43. The Co-Chairs thanked the representatives of the Main Committees for their briefings and thanked delegations for their active participation during the discussion, expressing appreciation for the proposals voiced. They highlighted, inter alia, the views on rationalization of the agenda and the implementation of resolutions. The Co-Chairs looked forward to the contribution of the Ad Hoc Working Group to achieving concrete success in the light of the seventieth anniversary of the Organization.

Third thematic meeting: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads of the United Nations system

44. The Co-Chairs convened the fourth meeting of the Working Group, which was also the third thematic meeting, on 27 April 2015, and heard statements from 33 delegations, including on behalf of major groups.

45. In their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs recalled the latest mandate, contained in resolution 68/307, which requested the Ad Hoc Working Group to continue considering this matter during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly. In this regard, they stressed that the relevant language in this year's resolution — both in terms of what would and would not be included — could have a direct impact on the next selection process, in 2016.

46. In the course of the ensuing debate, many speakers called for tangible improvements in the process, especially with a view to strengthening the role of the General Assembly, thereby enhancing its transparency. This, it was argued, was the more important given the role of the Secretary-General in dealing with global challenges. The factors of regional rotation and gender equality were raised, as were procedural aspects, such as the possibility of establishing a predictable timeline, including a deadline for the identification of candidates — as well as their pros and

cons. There was also a general appreciation of the distribution of roles that was accorded in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular in its Article 97, which states that the Secretary-General "shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council", a point that was reinforced by some of the speakers. On the other hand, several other speakers indicated their openness to considering new measures, such as the possibility of having more than one candidate be considered by the Assembly. Several delegations also argued in favour of taking a decision on the appointment of the Secretary-General by secret ballot. Some speakers also called for greater interaction with candidates, including through the timely holding of informal meetings of the Assembly, interactive dialogues, or a Security Council meeting open to all Member States of the United Nations, as well as observers and civil society. The role of the President of the General Assembly was raised, as was the possibility of modifying the term of office to a single, non-renewable term. Interventions furthermore called for the implementation of existing provisions in resolutions on this issue that had already been adopted. Overall, however, there was a clear consensus on the need for the process to identify the best possible candidate for the post of Secretary-General.

47. The Chair of the Eastern European Group for the month of April, as the only regional group in the General Assembly from which a Secretary-General had never been elected, reiterated its interest, first expressed in 2004, that the position of the next Secretary-General be filled by a candidate from that Group. Recalling resolution 51/241, which provided for "due regard" to be given to regional rotation, the Group was of the view that the time had finally come for a national from its region to be entrusted with the highest position in the Secretariat. The Group furthermore stressed the need to apply the principle of rotation in filling all key positions within the United Nations system. Whereas one speaker observed that the position of Secretary-General had so far never been filled by a candidate from Eastern Europe, another argued that while candidates from the Western European and Other Group had held the office for a total period of 25 years, the Eastern European Group had never had a Secretary-General and that the Latin America and the Caribbean Group had had only one. Yet another participant stressed that the paramountcy of electing the most qualified person should override other important aspirations.

48. An important factor discussed was the question of gender balance, in which regard many speakers noted that due consideration should be given to that question in the appointment process. Some observed that the office had so far never been held by a woman, and therefore strongly encouraged Member States to put forward qualified female candidates during the forthcoming selection process. Those Members moreover argued for preference to be given to equally qualified female candidates in the next selection process, noting, inter alia, the role of the United Nations in advocating women's empowerment and gender equality worldwide. One delegation pointed out that in the past 70 years, 60 women had assumed the highest office and that 28 women were currently leaders of their respective countries. Some even noted that resolution 11 (I) of 1946 referred to a "man", and that this needed to be amended, even as subsequent resolutions included references to gender equality. Arguing against restricting the pool of candidates, another delegation, on the other hand, stressed its principled position that discrimination generally was unacceptable, including vis-à-vis men, and noted historical instances of women having been considered as candidates, such as in 2006. Resolution 11 (I), it was

furthermore pointed out, was gender neutral in some of the official language versions and hence should not be considered as an impediment to putting forward female candidates.

49. A Group of States, having circulated a non-paper outlining specific procedural steps aimed at ensuring increased transparency, inclusiveness and a more rigorous process in selecting the next Secretary-General, laid out a vision that would include a joint letter from the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council inviting nominations, including a deadline; issuance of an official document listing the candidates; and a timeline indicating the necessary steps leading to the final appointment. One delegation called for such a letter to be sent in June or July 2015, and another requested the President of the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly to issue a call for nominations before the end of his term. Another group was of the view that early presentations of candidatures and the establishment of a list of candidates could facilitate the process and allow for sufficient time for interaction with Member States. Other delegations, on the other hand, objected to the imposition of deadlines, stressing that the overriding goal was to ensure that the best individual for the job was found, even if his or her candidature was presented late in the process.

50. Considerable interest was expressed by various speakers regarding the provision of opportunities for interaction with candidates, either in the Security Council and/or the General Assembly. One such group, for instance, called for open hearings organized by the President of the Assembly in the form of interactive dialogues with the wider membership as well as for hearings and Arria-formula meetings in the Security Council with shortlisted candidates. Those speakers also supported public briefings to update the membership on the developments in the selection process. Another group called upon the President of the Assembly to conduct timely hearings for an exchange of views and dialogue with candidates endorsed by a Member State. One delegation argued that it was not necessary to wait until all candidates had presented their candidatures before convening those meetings. Another delegation, on the other hand, opposed such hearings by pointing to the existing practice of candidates' meeting with regional groups instead. The question of criteria for the post was also raised on the argument that those could serve as a guide in the selection process. In general, commitment to the principles and goals of the United Nations, leadership, and extensive administrative and diplomatic experience were cited as examples. Some countries noted a number of additional attributes which they saw as indispensable, including exceptional management and leadership skills; the demonstrated commitment to creating and building integrity, fairness and competence; determination to accelerate management reform of the United Nations; being a proven team leader; and possessing sensitivity for the needs of the developing world. Some delegations also mentioned that it was important for the future Secretary-General to have multilingual skills. Yet, others, more generally, stressed the importance of seeking the best candidate, and argued that guidelines that were too restrictive might exclude valuable candidates.

51. Several Member States appealed to the Security Council to consider recommending more than one candidate for consideration by the Assembly, with some arguing that resolution 11 (I) was reflective of a particular historical context and was no longer appropriate in today's global context. One delegation specifically argued that resolution 11 (I) in any case was only a recommendation since it stated

that it would be merely "desirable" for the Council to present one candidate only. Regarding voting procedures, one Group of States stressed the importance of full compliance with relevant Assembly resolutions as well as with rule 141 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which, it argued, provided for a secret ballot in a private meeting. It was also argued that the Secretary-General should be appointed by a 2/3 majority of the members of the General Assembly. At the same time, it was also suggested that it was important to respect past practices in the Assembly as well as the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. One delegation underlined therefore that it was not realistic to look at options beyond what was envisioned in the Charter, and cautioned that the Assembly should not attempt to pursue changes to the Council's role, and/or working methods, in the process. Another delegation similarly stressed that any new procedures should not risk fragmenting support for the new Secretary-General.

52. Some speakers also touched upon the appointments of other executive heads, and one group in this regard stressed that candidates for the post of Secretary-General should not be under pressure to make senior appointments. Another group indicated that the criteria applied in the appointment of executive heads needed to be re-examined, including with regard to inclusivity and transparency, and specifically requested the Secretariat to provide information about the number of nationals from the Latin American and Caribbean region who had either been appointed as executive heads, or were in other high-level management positions throughout the Organization. Another delegation encouraged a discussion about the appointment process of the Deputy Secretary-General and argued that regional rotation and gender balance should also be observed in the selection of candidates for that position. Yet another group, while stressing the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender and geographical balance, called for candidates who meet the highest possible requirements in the appointment of executive heads of the Organization.

53. In closing, the Co-Chairs summarized the main points in the deliberation, and, while identifying some discrepancies that needed to be addressed, recognized nonetheless the high expectations among the membership to reach a tangible outcome of this issue in the Ad Hoc Working Group.

Fourth thematic meeting: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

54. The Co-Chairs convened the fifth meeting of the Working Group, which was also the fourth thematic meeting, on 12 May 2015. It included briefings by the Chef de Cabinet of the Office of the President of the General Assembly and by the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management. The briefings were followed by an interactive question-and-answer session and, subsequently, by remarks from nine delegations, including on behalf of major groups.

55. In their opening remarks, the Co-Chairs stressed that while some measures had already been adopted to strengthen the Office of the President of the General Assembly, there was still room for improvement, especially to ensure the best possible institutional memory for future Presidents of the General Assembly.

56. The Chef de Cabinet, pursuant to resolution 68/307, provided a briefing on the role, authority and activities of the President of the General Assembly. To this end,

he provided an overview of various high-level meetings initiated by the President during the sixty-ninth session so far, as well as a preview of others yet to come. Underlining the continued commitment of the President to strengthening further cooperation, and the coordination and exchange of information with the other principal organs and the Secretariat, he pointed to regular meetings held during the sixty-ninth session. Highlighting the considerable increase in the workload of the Office in recent years, the Chef de Cabinet expressed regret that this had not been matched with adequate resources, arguing that the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly as a whole had been undermined. Therefore, bold steps were required from Member States to ensure more adequate financing, including the timely provision of staff, especially in the light of the fact that by the time the Presidents got a full complement of appropriate staffing, the session was well under way. Furthermore, provision of an official residence from the United Nations regular budget was a measure that could be envisaged. The unpredictable resource situation currently obtaining might pose the risk that some Member States would be prevented from ever offering a candidate for the post of President of the General Assembly. Regarding the transition from one session to the next, the current President had agreed to take over some staff from the previous presidency, and was willing to similarly cooperate with the next one as well. The Chef de Cabinet issued a special token of gratitude to the Secretariat, in particular the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, for the dedication, tireless efforts and professionalism of its staff, without which the important work done during this session would not have been possible.

57. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management provided a briefing on the staffing, funding and budgetary support for the Office of the President of the General Assembly, as well as the overall support provided by the Department. The Under-Secretary-General informed that, in terms of staffing, the overall resources allocated in support of the Office exceeded $1 million per year from the budget of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and included two posts at the D-2 level, one at the D-1 level and one at the P-5 level, as well as one General Service staff member to be recruited by the President of the General Assembly. From within the Department, two staff members at the Professional level were designated to provide substantive and analytical support to the Office of the President in order to have the continuity and institutional knowledge and expertise sought by the Assembly. Two General Service staff members of the Department were located directly in the Office to assist in the daily functioning of the work of the Office, based on institutional memory. In addition, and pursuant to resolution 68/246 by which the Assembly had approved the Department's request for an additional post in support of the Office, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provided a wide range of assistance and services; this support included protocol services, and translation and text processing services, depending on the language requirements of each presidency. From other Departments, the President was provided with a car and driver to be used for official purposes, and office space, including transitional office space for the Presidents-elect, from the Department for Management. The Department of Safety and Security provided the President with a security detail, including during travel and in support of official functions. The President was also entitled to select a spokesperson for the duration of his or her term of office, who was provided by the Department of Public Information. The Office of Legal Affairs also provided legal assistance and guidance as requested.

58. Turning to the issue of funding the Office, the Under-Secretary-General noted that the overall resources arose from many sources, and so was embedded in numerous budget lines. He noted that the Assembly approved an amount of $250,000 per annum, effective 1998 — currently approximately $300,000, if adjusted for inflation — this amount covered the costs of official travel, official hospitality and miscellaneous staff expenditures, such as overtime and other expenditures. In response to the interest expressed by the Assembly in seeking ways to further support the Office in accordance with existing procedures, the Secretariat, in the light of the difficult financial situation which prevailed, had so far sought to increase substantive support to the Office of the President while maintaining the current level of funding. Given the static nature of this funding, a trust fund had been established in 2010 for the purpose of accepting voluntary funds in support of the Office. The respective contributions were usually earmarked for specific purposes, such as the organization of a thematic debate, and were associated with a specific session. During the sixty-ninth session, a number of contributions had been received, particularly in support of activities in connection with the post-2015 development agenda.

59. Aside from those specific allocations, either in the form of financial or human resources, the Secretariat actively supported the President and his Office on a daily basis throughout the year, with the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management serving as both the focal point, the repository of best practices, and the substantive backstopping office for the President and his or her Office. The Department also advised the Presidents-elect and facilitated the transition period from one session to the next. In this context, the Under-Secretary-General highlighted the collaboration between the Department and the Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations, which had taken the initiative to organize a retreat — now for the fifth year in a row — that brought together the incoming and outgoing presidencies, including the elected members of the General Committee, thereby contributing to an exchange of ideas and best practices. Generally, the Department's support encompassed a wide range of analytical, substantive, and technical support and included background briefs on specific substantive, procedural or technical questions during each presidency, as well as a whole range of conference management and conference support services which benefitted the Office.

60. Nine delegations commented on the presentations given, and expressed appreciation for the briefings provided. Highlighting the increased workload of the Office of the President owing to the number of meetings, volume of resolutions, frequency of United Nations conferences, mandates and other commitments routinely addressed to the Presidents, a number of speakers expressed support for an increase in the resources allocated to the Office. Those speakers noted that, while the prerogatives of the President had remained unchanged, his role and activities had evolved in adapting to the growing number of conferences and initiatives of the Assembly, in the performance of official protocol functions, in representing the Assembly all over the world and in making its work more widely known and more visible. In this connection, those speakers sought clarification from the Secretariat about the current status of the Trust Fund since it was authorized by resolution 68/307. One delegation suggested that the number of United Nations conferences that required attendance by the President undoubtedly entailed budgetary implications for the Office. Some noted that the Secretariat had repeatedly failed to

implement relevant provisions in the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, specifically the request that the Secretary-General make proposals to review the budget allocation of the Office of the President in the context of the biennial budget proposals, and sought clarification on that point.

61. A number of other delegations, on the other hand, expressed their principled opposition to any measures that would entail budgetary implications, emphasizing their continuing reservations against any budgetary implications arising from decisions taken by the Ad Hoc Working Group and stressed that in the light of the current budgetary situation, the Working Group needed to focus exclusively on cost-neutral and/or cost-reducing measures. Those delegations therefore proposed to look instead into other measures that could alleviate the workload of the Office, as well as that of the General Assembly, more generally. Such proposals included setting deadlines for Working Groups, improving the working methods of the Main Committees, reducing the number of items on the agenda through streamlining, and rationalizing the meetings schedule of the Assembly. The Office of the President, it was suggested, could be a valuable partner in ensuring the success of any such initiative. One group expressed its readiness to discuss constructively measures that might help to improve the functioning of the Office, seeking to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, while also commending the Secretariat for the creation of a multilingual General Assembly revitalization website within existing resources. Other measures proposed included the practice of outgoing Presidents' briefing their successors and encouraging them to share their views and recommendations with the Ad Hoc Working Group as well; and gaining from the experiences of past Presidents trough the Council of Presidents of the General Assembly, more generally. This Group also recalled the provision from previous resolutions for the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travel, which, it emphasized, was not only a valuable source of information but also an important act of transparency for Member States, especially as the President represented all Member States when attending official meetings and during official travel.

62. One speaker furthermore stressed that any proposal for the increase of the budget allocation for the Office of the President of the General Assembly needed to be approved by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee in line with the rules of procedure of the Assembly, and be accompanied by detailed information on its rationale. At the same time, any such request should coincide with a thorough examination of the use of the current resources allocated to the Office, including how effectively its staff operated. Another participant underlined the importance that the staff of the Office meet the highest standards, and should be recruited on as wide a geographical basis as possible.

63. Other proposals made included the issuance by the Secretariat of a compendium of best practices; that outgoing presidencies submit an analytical report to their successors on lessons learned and outstanding items on the agenda; the establishment of a consultative forum bringing together Facilitators and Co-Chairs during any given session to facilitate exchange among them; the creation of a "permanent committee" within the Office to preserve institutional memory; and review and reduction of the number of thematic debates, which should be convened only if corresponding to a matter of interest to a majority of the membership.

64. In closing, the Co-Chairs, at the end of five meetings, dedicated to substantive debate, commented on the high level of interest in the issue of revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, as underscored throughout those meetings. Looking forward, they would be preparing a draft resolution, based on resolution 68/307, which would be circulated in early June for review and comments by Member States before commencing negotiations.

III. Conclusion

65. In accordance with its mandate, the Working Group endeavoured to identify key issues of concern and possible consensus, to examine the current status of implementation of those issues, and either to take action or to indicate possible further action to be taken.

66. At its final meeting, held on 2 September 2015, the Working Group considered and adopted the present report, including the draft resolution contained in section IV below (see para. 68).

IV. Recommendation

67. On the basis of a draft resolution circulated by the Co-Chairs, the Working Group formulated the resolution set out below.

68. At its final meeting, on 2 September 2015, the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly concluded its work for the sixty-ninth session. The Working Group recommended that the Assembly adopt the following draft resolution:

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 68/307 of 10 September 2014 and all other previous resolutions relating to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,[1]

Mindful of the seventieth anniversary of the Organization of the United Nations in 2015 and the fact that the Organization has grown considerably since its creation, in terms of both the number of its Member States and the issues on its agenda,

Underlining the need to further enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly,

Reiterating that the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly is a critical component of the overall reform of the United Nations,

Recognizing the role of the General Assembly in addressing issues of peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and acknowledging its role and authority, established in Article 10 of the Charter, to

[1] Resolutions 46/77, 47/233, 48/264, 51/241, 52/163, 55/14, 55/285, 56/509, 57/300, 57/301, 58/126, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292, 62/276, 63/309, 64/301, 65/315, 66/294 and 67/297.

make recommendations to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both, on any questions or matters within the scope of the Charter, except as provided in Article 12,

Reaffirming the central position of the General Assembly as the chief deliberative, policymaking and representative organ of the United Nations, as well as the role of the Assembly in the process of standard-setting and the codification of international law,

Recognizing, in view of the twentieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[2] the ongoing intergovernmental efforts within the United Nations to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women, and convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men in gaining access to senior positions of decision-making, including to the post of Secretary-General, bearing in mind the need to select the best candidates,

Reaffirming the role and authority of the General Assembly in global matters of concern to the international community, including in global governance, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations,

Welcoming the efforts of the President of the General Assembly to reinvigorate the revitalization of the work of the Assembly during its sixty-ninth session,

Taking note of the observations and proposals on improving the working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly, made by the Chairs of the Main Committees at the thematic meeting on working methods of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly held on 14 April 2015,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly and the updated inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed thereto;[3]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, which exists in all six official languages, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating regularly and equally that web page and its substantive content in a cost-effective manner;

3. *Decides* to establish, at its seventieth session, an ad hoc working group on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, open to all Member States:

(a) To identify further ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, inter alia, by building on the progress achieved in past sessions as well as on previous resolutions, including evaluating the status of their implementation;

(b) To submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its seventieth session;

4. *Also decides* that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
[3] A/69/1007.

report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-ninth session, and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report to be submitted at the seventieth session of the Assembly;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] and requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventieth session;

Role and authority of the General Assembly

6. *Reaffirms* the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter;

7. *Recognizes* that implementation of General Assembly resolutions, including those related to the revitalization of its work, enhances the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly, and underlines the important role and responsibility of Member States in their full implementation;

8. *Reaffirms* that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, and in this regard stresses the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General;

9. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continued practice of holding periodic informal briefings by the Secretary-General on his priorities, travels and most recent activities, including his participation in international meetings and events organized outside the United Nations, and encourages the continuation of this practice;

10. *Reaffirms* that the presence of permanent missions serves to assist in the realization of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, recognizes the importance of their role in contributing to the effectiveness and efficiency of the General Assembly, as well as the role of the Secretariat in accommodating the work of permanent missions, and in this regard invites the President of the General Assembly at its seventieth session to conduct an informal meeting on this subject to consider ways and means to further enhance the cooperation between permanent missions and the Secretariat and to transmit a summary of the meeting to the Secretary-General;

11. *Also reaffirms* the importance and benefit of continuing interaction between the General Assembly and international or regional forums and organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community,

[4] A/69/793.

as well as with civil society, where appropriate, and encourages the exploration of appropriate actions or measures, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly, in conformity with its relevant rules of procedure;

12. *Recognizes* the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community, and calls upon the President of the General Assembly to organize such debates in close consultation with the General Committee and the Member States, including with regard to the preliminary programme of such debates, in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion during the debates so as to enable all interested delegations to state their positions and to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates, and in this context welcomes the initiative of the President of the Assembly at the sixty-ninth session to select "Delivering on and implementing a transformative post-2015 development agenda" as the theme of the general debate;

13. *Takes note* of the letter dated 4 December 2014 from the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session addressed to all Member States and Permanent Observers expressing a variety of views of Member States on the content and quality of the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, and encourages continuing efforts to ensure the inclusion in the report of more substantive information on the work of the Council, as appropriate;

14. *Invites* the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance, in the light of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, under relevant agenda items, to bring to the attention of Member States constraints that have prevented the Secretary-General from implementing those provisions of General Assembly resolutions that are addressed to the Secretariat;

Working methods

16. *Appreciates* the briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group about the working methods of their respective Committees during the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, and in this regard encourages the Main Committees:

(a) To ensure adequate coordination in their work while avoiding overlap and duplication;

(b) To hold elections for the bureaux of the Main Committees at least three months before the opening of the session, and preferably up to six months in advance of each session, and calls upon the regional groups to proceed with relevant nominations in a timely manner and in accordance with the interim arrangement set out in General Assembly decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013;

(c) To benefit from their respective intranet and other online services to facilitate the smooth organization and timely conclusion of their work;

(d) To further enhance sharing of information on the work and activities of the Main Committees within each Main Committee;

(e) To further improve the management of the negotiation process for General Assembly resolutions;

17. *Calls upon* outgoing Chairs of the Main Committees to brief incoming Chairs on best practices and lessons learned from previous sessions of the Committees and to provide their written observations and lessons learned to their immediate successors, and encourages the incoming Chairs and bureau members of the Committees to consult with Member States shortly after their election on how the work will be conducted during the upcoming session of their Committee;

18. *Reaffirms* existing relevant mandates related to the improvement of the working methods of the Main Committees, including annex C to resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004, paragraphs 7 to 13 of resolution 59/313 of 12 September 2005 and cluster III of the annex to resolution 60/286 of 8 September 2006;

19. *Requests* each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group during the seventieth session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report submitted at the seventy-first session under the agenda item entitled "Pattern of conferences", information regarding the basis for the current practice whereby Member States bear the additional costs of using United Nations Headquarters conference services during business hours;

21. *Recalls* its decision in resolution 68/307 to conduct the elections of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council about six months before the elected members assume their responsibilities, beginning at the seventieth session, welcomes the current practice of the Security Council of inviting its elected members to observe some of its meetings and activities prior to the assumption of their responsibilities, and welcomes such efforts to afford elected members appropriate opportunities to prepare for their tenure in the Council;

22. *Emphasizes* that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the seventieth session, in consultation with Member States, should continue their consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group;

23. *Recalls* its resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994, by which it adopted the Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly;[5]

24. *Also recalls* the need to avoid duplication and overlap of the agendas of the General Assembly, especially of its Second and Third Committees, the Economic and Social Council, and its subsidiary bodies, and the high-level political

[5] Resolution 48/264, annex I.

forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council and the Assembly, as well as all other related forums, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure;

25. *Further recalls* rules 153 and 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and encourages the Chairs of the Main Committees and the Secretary-General to ensure observance of these rules, within their respective mandates;

26. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the role of the General Committee to support the work of the General Assembly;

27. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of the meetings of the Assembly, including high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing their interactivity and effectiveness, especially during the general debate, and distribution of such events throughout the session;

28. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, resolution 57/301 of 13 March 2003, by which the General Assembly, inter alia, decided that the general debate shall open on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly and shall be held without interruption, and encourages the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the Assembly;

29. *Recalls* the interim arrangement approved by the General Assembly in decision 68/505, recommending a pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees until the seventy-third session, reiterates its request that the Ad Hoc Working Group prepare long-term arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism, in consultation with regional groups, and that it submit them to the Assembly no later than at the seventy-second session, and in this regard invites Member States to present proposals and begin at an early stage to devote attention to the matter of concluding a future arrangement, which would come into effect at the seventy-fourth session, with the annex to resolution 68/307 containing the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees to be considered in this context;

30. *Encourages* Member States to seek gender balance in the distribution of Chairs of the Main Committees and in the position of the President of the General Assembly;

31. *Also encourages* Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs, reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents, and in this regard requests the Secretariat to further improve, harmonize and, where appropriate, unify such e-services;

Selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

32. *Reaffirms* its commitment to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its consideration of the revitalization of the role of the General Assembly in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, and recalls all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11(I) of 24 January 1946, 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 47/233 of 17 August 1993, 48/264, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 52/163 of 15 December 1997, 55/14 of 3 November 2000, 55/285 of 7 September 2001, 56/509 of 8 July 2002, 57/300 of 20 December 2002, 57/301, 58/126 of 19 December 2003, 58/316, 59/313, 60/286, 61/292 of 2 August 2007, 62/276 of 15 September 2008, 63/309 of 14 September 2009, 64/301 of 13 September 2010, 65/315 of 12 September 2011, 66/294 of 17 September 2012, 67/297 of 29 August 2013 and 68/307, reaffirming the applicable procedures set out in the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in particular rule 141, and acknowledging relevant existing Assembly practices;

33. *Calls upon* the President of the General Assembly to monitor and review the Assembly's implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions;

34. *Reiterates* that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to other executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, and emphasizes in particular that the process of selection of the Secretary-General shall be guided by the principles of transparency and inclusiveness, building on best practices and the participation of all Member States;

35. *Requests* the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council to start the process of soliciting candidates for the position of Secretary-General through a joint letter addressed to all Member States, containing a description of the entire process and inviting candidates to be presented in a timely manner;

36. *Also requests* the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council to jointly circulate to all Member States on an ongoing basis the names of individuals that have been submitted for consideration as candidates for the position of Secretary-General together with accompanying documents, including curricula vitae;

37. *Notes* that the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General is expected to take place in 2016, and as a result requests, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the Presidents of the General Assembly, in particular those at the seventieth and seventy-first sessions, to actively support this process in accordance with the role accorded to them by relevant resolutions, including the present resolution;

38. *Stresses* the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender and geographical balance, while meeting the highest possible requirements, on the appointment of executive heads of the Organization, including the Secretary-General, and in this regard invites Member States to consider presenting women as candidates for the position of Secretary-General;

39. *Stresses in particular* the need to ensure the appointment of the best possible candidate for the position of Secretary-General who embodies the highest

standards of efficiency, competence and integrity and demonstrates a firm commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and invites Member States to present candidates with proven leadership and managerial abilities, extensive experience in international relations and strong diplomatic, communication and multilingual skills;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group in a streamlined and comprehensive way on the gender balance and regional origin of the executive heads and the Senior Management Group of the Organization;

41. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the selection and conditions of service of executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system,[6] proposing that the General Assembly conduct hearings or meetings with candidates running for the position of Secretary-General;

42. *Decides*, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, to conduct informal dialogues or meetings with candidates for the position of Secretary-General, without any prejudice to any candidate who does not participate, thus contributing to the transparency and inclusivity of the process;

43. *Recalls* its resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, in particular paragraph 2 thereof, in which it noted that the Secretary-General will appoint the Deputy Secretary-General following consultations with Member States, and stresses that the process of appointment of executive heads of the Organization should be in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and as set out in the Charter;

44. *Affirms* its readiness to continue discussing all the issues relating to the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General in all their aspects within the Ad Hoc Working Group during its seventieth session, including those contained in the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group as contained in document A/69/1007;

Strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

45. *Notes with appreciation* the views expressed by the Office of the President of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the strengthening of the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly and its relationship with the Secretariat[7] and measures already undertaken in this regard, while continuing to explore additional measures where feasible, and notes the support provided by the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to the Office of the President of the Assembly;

46. *Encourages* the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travel;

47. *Commends* the initiative of convening a retreat on the strengthening of the General Assembly, which brings together the incoming and outgoing

[6] A/65/71, annex.
[7] See A/69/1007.

presidencies of each session of the Assembly, and in this regard takes note of the summary of the proceedings of the retreat held on 26 and 27 June 2014;[8]

48. *Encourages* exchanges between the President-elect of the General Assembly and the Council of Presidents so that Presidents-elect may benefit from the experiences of former Presidents in terms of best practices and lessons learned, as part of strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly;

49. *Requests* the outgoing Presidents of the General Assembly to transmit to their successors a summary of their work during their terms of office and to brief them on the lessons learned and best practices, and encourages the holding of a structured and constructive exchange of experiences between them in the transition period of three months;

50. *Encourages* Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventieth session of the General Assembly on sources of the funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat;

52. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility for coordinating, in an efficient and capable manner, the transition between Presidents, managing interactions between the President and the Secretary-General and preserving institutional memory, and also emphasizes the desirability for staff in the Office of the President of the General Assembly to be seconded from among Member States in a timely manner;

53. *Notes* that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the Assembly in previous resolutions, and expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly;

54. *Recalls* its request to the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in accordance with existing procedures, and in this connection looks forward to considering such proposals during the main part of its seventieth session;

55. *Stresses* the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard notes with appreciation contributions that have been made to the Fund and encourages Member States to continue to contribute to the Fund;

56. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the seventieth session of the Assembly on the role, mandate and activities of the President.

[8] A/69/562, annex.

Annex

Updated inventory chart of General Assembly resolutions on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, issued pursuant to resolution 68/307

Explanatory note by the Co-Chairs of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly (sixty-ninth session)

1. In accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 68/307, in which the Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly should continue its review of the inventory of Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-eighth session (A/68/951), and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session, the Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, have prepared the updated inventory chart for consideration by Member States.

2. The present inventory chart has been updated to reflect the progress achieved since the adoption of resolution 68/307.

3. The Co-Chairs, assisted by the Secretariat, obtained updated information, where possible, from relevant entities responsible for implementation.

4. The updated inventory chart retains the following two-part structure, which was also utilized in the report submitted at the sixty-seventh session:

(a) The first part contains unimplemented provisions, in order to focus on their follow-up;

(b) The second part contains implemented provisions, both those that required one-time action and those to be implemented on an ongoing basis, in order to keep track of previous achievements and provide the means to compare with and learn from past experience.

5. Thus, in practical terms, the updated inventory chart can continue to provide clear evidence of ongoing progress and signal opportunities for further progress.

6. The inventory chart does not have a definite character and may be amended at any time by Member States through the Ad Hoc Working Group. Furthermore, it is not intended to, and does not, have any legal effect. It should serve only as a tool to facilitate discussions on the follow-up to the implementation of the previous related resolutions.

Part I
Provisions requiring follow-up

Cluster I: role and authority of the General Assembly

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
A. General provisions related to the role and authority of the General Assembly (See part II)				
B. Provisions related to the election of the President of the General Assembly and members of the General Committee (See also part II)				
1.	68/307, para. 22 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 22	Ad Hoc Working Group to prepare long-term arrangements concerning the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly with the aim of establishing a predictable, transparent and fair mechanism in consultation with regional groups and that it submit them to the Assembly no later than at the seventy-second session and in this regard invites Member States to present proposals and begin early on to give attention to the matter of concluding a future arrangement.	Ad Hoc Working Group, regional groups	To be implemented and to be submitted to the General Assembly no later than at the seventy-second session.
C. Provisions related to the annual report of the Security Council (See also part II)				
2.	60/286, annex, para. 7 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (d); and 58/126, annex, para. 2	Also invites the Security Council to submit periodically, in accordance with Articles 15 and 24 of the Charter, special subject-oriented reports to the General Assembly for its consideration on issues of current international concern.	Member States (Security Council)	Since the adoption of resolution 60/286 no special subject-oriented reports have been formally submitted to the General Assembly. The special subjects, however, are to some extent covered by the monthly assessments by the Presidents of the Security Council.
D. Provisions related to the annual report of the Economic and Social Council (See part II)				

No	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
E. Provisions related to the annual report of the International Court of Justice (See part II)				
F. Provisions related to public relations activities (See part II)				
G. Provisions related to General Assembly cooperation with civil society and others (See part II)				
H. Provisions related to the organization of work (See part II)				
I. Provisions related to interactive/thematic debates (See part II)				
J. Provisions related to the cooperation between the main organs (See also part II)				
K. Provisions related to the implementation and follow-up of resolutions (See part II)				

Cluster II: working methods

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. General provisions related to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (See part II)				
3.	68/307, para. 24	Underlines the need to fully implement and observe rule 55 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, which provides that, during the sessions of the Assembly, the *Journal of the United Nations* shall be published in the languages of the Assembly, from within existing resources.	Secretariat, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Implemented partially, during the main part of the session only (September to December). Following the practice of the past 70 years, the *Journal* is published in the six official languages during the main part of the session (September to December) and continues to be published in English and French during the resumed part of the session.
B. Provisions related to the organization of meetings: Plenary, General Committee, Main Committees (See part II)				
4.	68/307, para. 17 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 17	Decides to conduct the elections of the non-permanent members of the Security Council and the members of the Economic and Social Council about six months before the elected members assume their responsibilities, beginning at the seventieth session.	General Assembly	To be implemented at the seventieth session. Pursuant to resolution 68/307, the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management, in October 2014, sent a memo to regional groups to advise that as a result of this provision, there would henceforth be two elections at the seventieth session for the non-permanent members of the Security Council and two elections for the members of the Economic and Social Council. Specifically, the General Assembly will conduct elections for five non-permanent members of the Security Council for the term 2016-2017 and for 18 members of the Economic and Social Council for the term 2016-2018 during the main part of the session in the third quarter of 2015. In the second quarter of 2016, also at the seventieth session, the General Assembly will conduct elections for the 2017-2018 term in the Security Council and for the 2017-2019 term in the Economic and Social Council, respectively. This information has also been placed in the United Nations Journal.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
C. Provisions related to the general debate (See part II)				
D. Provisions related to the conduct of business: time limits on speeches (See part II)				
E. Provisions related to modern technologies (See part II)				
F. Provisions related to documentation: resolutions (See also part II)				
5.	60/286, annex, para. 23 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 5	Encourages Member States to submit draft resolutions in a more concise, focused and action-oriented form.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States, bearing in mind the sovereign right of Member States to submit proposals in the context of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
G. Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports (See also part II)				
H. Provisions related to the preparation and issuance of reports (See also part II)				
I. Provisions related to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (See also part II)				
J. Provisions related to the agenda of the General Assembly (See part II)				
K. Provisions related to practices and working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly (See also part II)				
L. Provisions related to the General Committee				

Cluster III: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. General provision related to the selection of the Secretary-General				
6.	68/307, para. 26 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 17; 51/241, annex, para. 57	Reiterates that the process of selecting and appointing the Secretary-General differs from the process used with regard to other executive heads in the organizations of the United Nations system, given the roles of the Security Council and the General Assembly in accordance with Article 97 of the Charter, and re-emphasizes the need for the process of selection of the Secretary-General to be transparent and inclusive of all Member States.		No specific action.
7.	60/286, annex, para. 22	Emphasizes the importance of candidates for the post of Secretary-General possessing and displaying, inter alia, commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, extensive leadership, and administrative and diplomatic experience.		No specific action.
B. Provisions related to the selection process (See also part II)				
8.	68/307, para. 27	Notes that the selection and appointment of the next Secretary-General is expected to take place in 2016, and as a result encourages, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the President of the General Assembly to actively support this process in accordance with the role accorded to him or her by relevant resolutions.	President of the General Assembly	President of the General Assembly to actively support the selection process.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
9.	60/286, annex, para. 19 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 60	Encourages, without prejudice to the role of the principal organs as enshrined in Article 97 of the Charter, the President of the General Assembly to consult with Member States to identify potential candidates endorsed by a Member State and, upon informing all Member States of the results, to forward those results to the Security Council.	President of the General Assembly, Member States	Provision to be implemented every five years.
10.	60/286, annex, para. 20	Also encourages formal presentation of candidatures for the position of Secretary-General in a manner that allows sufficient time for interaction with Member States, and requests candidates to present their views to all States members of the General Assembly.	Member States	While since the adoption of that provision there have been no formal meetings with the candidates in the General Assembly, potential candidates have met with their regional groups in an informal manner.
C. Provisions related to the appointment and duration of the term (See also part II)				
11.	51/241, annex, para. 58	The duration of the term or terms of appointment, including the option of a single term, shall be considered before the appointment of the next Secretary-General.	Member States	Member States decide on the duration of the term on a case-by-case basis, on the recommendation of the Security Council.

Cluster IV: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. Provisions related to the financial, logistic and technical support for the President of the General Assembly (See part II)				
12.	68/307, para. 37 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 26; 66/294, para. 31; and 64/301, para. 10 (for the 2012-2013 biennium budget)	Notes that the activities of the President of the General Assembly have increased markedly in recent years, recalls provisions regarding support for the Office of the President of the Assembly in previous resolutions, expresses continued interest in seeking ways to further support the Office, in accordance with existing procedures, in particular rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and in this context looks forward to the submission by the Secretary-General of his proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office pursuant to paragraph 32 of resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011 and paragraph 31 of resolution 66/294.	Secretary-General	To be considered by the Fifth Committee.
13.	68/307, para. 38	Requests the Secretary-General to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, proposals to review the budget allocation to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in accordance with existing procedures.	Secretary-General	To be submitted for consideration by the Fifth Committee.
B. Provisions related to the competencies of the President of the General Assembly (See part II)				

Part II
Provisions that have been implemented or are being implemented on an ongoing basis

Cluster I: role and authority of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A. General provisions related to the role and authority of the General Assembly				
14.	68/307, para. 6 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 4; 65/315, para. 4; 64/301, para. 4; 60/286, annex I, para. 1; and 59/313, para. 2 (b)	Reaffirms the role and authority of the General Assembly, including on questions relating to international peace and security, in accordance with Articles 10 to 14 and 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, where appropriate, using the procedures set forth in rules 7 to 10 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, which enable swift and urgent action by the Assembly, bearing in mind that the Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter.	Member States	Ongoing provision. The General Assembly has a number of items on its agenda that fall under the heading "maintenance of international peace and security". Since the adoption of this provision, the tenth emergency special session held its 30th and 31st plenary meetings on 15 December 2006 and its 32nd and 33rd plenary meetings on 15 and 16 January 2009.
B. Provisions related to the election of the President of the General Assembly and members of the General Committee				
15.	68/307, para. 21	Decides to reiterate the interim arrangement adopted in General Assembly decision 68/505 of 1 October 2013 recommending the pattern for the rotation of the Chairs of the Main Committees for the forthcoming five sessions, namely from the sixty-ninth to seventy-third sessions, as well as the guidelines on the election of the Chairs and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees contained in the annex to the present resolution.	General Assembly, regional groups	Implemented on an ongoing basis. In its decision 68/505, taken at its 24th plenary meeting on 1 October 2013, the General Assembly, on the proposal of its President, decided to approve an interim arrangement concerning the rotation of the chairs of the Main Committees for the forthcoming five sessions of the Assembly. The elections for the Chairs of the Main Committees for the sixty-ninth session were conducted in accordance with this decision. Concerning the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), the

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
				General Assembly furthermore adopted decision 69/524 of 5 December 2014 entitled "Rotation of the post of Rapporteur of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) for the seventieth to seventy-third sessions of the General Assembly".
16.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 9	In accordance with paragraph 2 (a) and (c) of resolution 56/509, the General Assembly elects the President of the Assembly, the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly, and the Chairmen of the Main Committees at least three months before the opening of the session in which they will serve. In order to foster better advance planning and preparation of the work of the Main Committees, the full bureaux of the Main Committees shall similarly be elected three months in advance of the next session.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as from the fifty-eighth session. This provision as well as rules 30 and 99 (a) apply to the election of the President of the General Assembly and the Vice-Presidents.
C. Provisions related to the annual report of the Security Council (See also part I)				
17.	68/307, para. 11 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 10; 66/294, para. 11; 65/315, para. 10; 64/301, para. 9; 60/286, annex, para. 4; and 58/126, annex, para. 3	Welcomes the improvement in the quality of the annual reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly, encourages the Council to make further improvement as necessary.	Security Council	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The report of the Security Council is being improved in a gradual manner. Further to the measures contained in the notes by the President of the Security Council of 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507) and 5 June 2012 (S/2012/402), presidencies may consider organizing interactive informal exchanges of views with the wider membership prior to the adoption of the report. In the 1990s the report was changed to reflect changes in the working methods of the Security Council.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
				Since 2000, further changes have been introduced; inter alia, the introductory part has been added. Since then, the Security Council has focused more on the introduction to the report. In 2006, information on special political missions was added to the report.
18.	60/286, annex, para. 5 *Also in*: 58/126, annex, para. 4; and 51/241, annex, para. 12	In carrying out the assessment of the debate on the annual report of the Security Council called for in paragraph 12 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President shall inform the General Assembly of his decision regarding the need for further consideration of the report of the Council, including in respect of the convening of informal consultations, on the need for, and content of, any action by the Assembly based on the debate, as well as on any matters to be brought to the attention of the Council.	President of the General Assembly	Implemented on an ongoing basis. The President of the General Assembly provides opening remarks and a closing assessment of the debate. At the sixty-ninth session the President of the General Assembly, subsequent to the debate, transmitted to Member States a list of proposals concerning the analytical nature, the presentation of the report and practices, expressed during the debate.
19.	60/286, annex, para. 6 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (e)	Invites the Security Council to update the General Assembly on a regular basis on the steps it has taken or is contemplating with respect to improving its reporting to the Assembly.	Member States, Security Council	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Information on the steps taken by the Security Council is provided during the meetings with the President of the General Assembly as well as included in the monthly assessments by the Presidents of the Security Council.
20.	59/313, para. 2 (c) *Also in*: 59/313, para. 2 (f)	To consider the annual reports as well as special reports of the Security Council, in accordance with Article 15, paragraph 1, and Article 24, paragraph 3, of the Charter, through substantive and interactive debates.	General Assembly	See above.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
21.	51/241, annex, para. 11	The agenda item entitled "Report of the Security Council" shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
22.	51/241, annex, para. 14	The monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council shall be circulated for the information of members of the General Assembly.	Security Council	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Member States are provided with the monthly forecast of the programme of work of the Security Council in hard copies. The programme of work is also uploaded on the website of the Security Council.
23.	51/241, annex, para. 13	The agenda item shall not be closed but shall remain open to enable further discussion as necessary during the year, bearing in mind, inter alia, the submission of additional reports as and when necessary.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Since the sixty-second session, the agenda item has remained open at every session.
D. Provisions related to the annual report of the Economic and Social Council				
24.	60/286, annex, para. 8 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 15	Invites the Economic and Social Council to continue to prepare its report to the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 50/227, striving to make it more concise and action-oriented by highlighting the critical areas requiring action by the Assembly and, as appropriate, by making specific recommendations for consideration by the Member States.	Member States (Economic and Social Council)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
E. Provisions related to the annual report of the International Court of Justice				
25.	51/241, annex, para. 16	The report of the International Court of Justice shall continue to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly. The Assembly	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Since the fifty-second session, the report has continued to be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly.

No	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		shall continue to support the role of the International Court of Justice as the principal judicial organ of the Organization, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly shall also continue to encourage the progressive development and codification of international law.		
F. Provisions related to public relations activities				
26.	68/307, para. 2 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 16	Welcomes the establishment of a multilingual web page devoted to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, accessible directly from the United Nations website, and invites the Secretariat to continue updating that web page and its substantive content.	Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, Department of Public Information	Implemented. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management periodically provides updated content to the Department of Public Information.
27.	68/307, para. 12	Invites the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, while carrying out its activities, as mandated by the General Assembly, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the Assembly and to enhance, in the light of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, world public and media awareness of the contribution made by the Assembly to the fulfilment of the goals of the Organization, as set out in the Charter.	Secretariat, Department of Public Information	The Department of Public Information provides extensive coverage of the work of the General Assembly, its Committees and all major subsidiary bodies through print, online, audio and video news media.
28.	67/297, para. 11 66/294, para. 22; 65/315, para. 18; 64/301, para. 20;	Encourages the Secretariat, including the Department of Public Information, to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the General Assembly and to enhance world public and media awareness of its work, and in	Secretariat	Wire-agency style news stories put out by the United Nations News Centre in the six official languages are a key part of this coverage. The President of the General Assembly is regularly interviewed and featured on the United Nations News Centre and United Nations Radio. The Department of

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
	63/309, para. 8; 60/286, annex, para. 14; and 58/126, annex, para. 8	this regard recalls paragraph 10 of its resolution 67/124 B of 18 December 2012, in which it noted the efforts of the Department to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly and requested the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly. Requests the Department of Public Information to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and stresses the importance of further enhancing public and media awareness of the work and decisions of the Assembly, including through their timely issuance and distribution in all official languages.		Public Information also provides comprehensive press releases, in English and French, of all meetings of the Assembly, its main committees and its subsidiary bodies, which are also included in the daily media alert, and statements made by Member States are made available in print and online form to the press. The annual press kit on the incoming President of the General Assembly is produced in the six official languages as well as in a number of non-official languages. United Nations Radio, whose general debate coverage includes a series of interviews with visiting officials that are broadcast in different languages, also places links to the text of general debate speeches on its website. United Nations Television and Video provides gavel-to-gavel live feeds to broadcasters around the world of the meetings of the General Assembly, as well as related press conferences. This coverage is also made available on the United Nations webcast platform. In the sixty-seventh session, for the first time, as mandated by the General Assembly, the Department of Public Information provided live and on-demand webcast coverage of all Main Committee meetings. United Nations Photo also provided thorough coverage of the General Assembly during the reporting period, with photos available on the United Nations Photo website. Through social media platforms, the Department of Public Information further communicates information about the work and priorities of the Assembly. These include YouTube, Twitter, Facebook and Sina Weibo.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
				The quarterly *UN Chronicle*, the annual *Yearbook of the United Nations* and *Basic Facts About the United Nations* also contain extensive coverage of the structure and function of the General Assembly. In addition, the new smartphone educational application "United Nations calendar of observances: making a difference" promotes awareness of and action on important issues before the General Assembly, as well as ways to become involved in related events and links to further information. Through its weekly Thursday briefing programme for the non-governmental community, the Department of Public Information also covers issues before the General Assembly. Its Creative Community Outreach Initiative has facilitated filming in the General Assembly Hall for television and film productions, and its annual five-week-long training programme for journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition exposes junior and mid-level journalists to the work of the United Nations during the general debate. The Department of Public Information's network of 62 United Nations Information Centres, Services and Offices also continues to carry out numerous public information activities to enhance awareness of the work of the General Assembly. The Centres widely disseminated press kits for the sixty-sixth, sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions of the Assembly that were frequently translated into local languages and disseminated to media representatives, Government officials and civil society.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
				The Department of Public Information further enhanced public and media awareness of the work and decisions of the General Assembly by disseminating messages from the Spokesperson of the President of the General Assembly to field duty stations. United Nation Information Centres also provide media and communication support to the President of the General Assembly during official visits to the countries where they are located. The Department of Public Information regularly seconds a staff member at the Professional level to serve as the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly. In addition, the Committee on Information continues to consider ways and means to enhance the visibility of the work of the General Assembly, including through the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group.
29.	66/294, para. 14 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 15	Urges the Secretariat to continue its efforts to raise the visibility of the General Assembly, reaffirms paragraph 15 of resolution 60/286, and decides that the announcements about the work of the principal organs of the United Nations should appear in the *Journal of the United Nations* in the order stipulated in Article 7 of the Charter.	Secretariat	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Pursuant to resolutions 60/286 and 66/294 the items in the *Journal of the United Nations* have been rearranged including with announcements about the work of the principal organs of the United Nations appearing in the order stipulated in Article 7 of the Charter. In an effort to raise the visibility of the General Assembly, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management periodically briefs media on the programme of work of the General Assembly. See also Department of Public Information's activities above.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
30.	60/286, annex, para. 16	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to increase their public visibility, including through enhanced contacts with representatives of the media and civil society, thus promoting the activities of the Assembly, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the practice of providing to the Office of the President of the Assembly a Spokesperson for the President of the Assembly and an assistant to the Spokesperson.	President of the General Assembly, Secretary-General	Ongoing provision. Since the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairmen of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current sessions (see also A/61/483, p. 20 and A/62/608, p. 15). As indicated above, the Department of Public Information regularly seconds a staff member at the Professional level to serve as the Spokesperson for the President of the General Assembly, in addition to providing support to the President and his Office by a number of other means.
G. Provisions related to the General Assembly cooperation with civil society and others				
31.	68/307, para. 9 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 12	Also reaffirms the importance and benefit of continuing interaction between the General Assembly and international or regional forums and organizations dealing with global matters of concern to the international community, as well as with civil society, where appropriate, and encourages the exploration of appropriate actions or measures, while fully respecting the intergovernmental nature of the Assembly, in conformity with its relevant rules of procedure.	General Assembly	Ongoing provision. For example, informal interactive hearings with civil society take place within the framework of the preparations of high-level meetings of the General Assembly, in accordance with the respective modalities resolutions. The General Assembly also periodically hears briefings by the current chair of the Group of 20 on their recent activities. Since the sixtieth session, for example, the Presidents of the General Assembly, together with the Chairs of the Main Committees, have periodically briefed representatives of civil society on the programme of work of the Assembly at its current sessions (A/61/483, p. 20, and A/62/608, p. 15).
32.	60/286, annex, para. 13	Also encourages, where appropriate, continued cooperation between the General Assembly and national and regional parliaments, particularly through the Inter-Parliamentary Union.	General Assembly	Provision has been implemented on an ongoing basis. Numerous meetings have been held between the President of the General Assembly and visiting parliamentarians. The Inter-Parliamentary Union also participates as an observer in the General Assembly.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
H. Provisions related to the organization of work				
33.	55/285, annex, para. 19 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 28	In order to implement fully paragraph 28 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly is encouraged to make greater use of facilitators, where appropriate.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
34.	51/241, annex, para. 27	The General Assembly is the highest political body with universal membership of the Organization. Consideration of agenda items directly in plenary meetings shall be reserved for urgent issues or issues of major political importance, bearing in mind paragraphs 1 and 2 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 48/264.	General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
35.	51/241, annex, para. 28	The President of the General Assembly, with a view to ensuring that there is a systematic and transparent process for participation by delegations in discussions on action to be taken on items considered directly in plenary meetings, shall assess the debate in plenary meetings.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Usually, the President of the General Assembly provides his assessment of the debates in plenary meetings whenever items considered are of particular importance or special interest to Member States.
36.	51/241, annex, para. 29	The Secretariat shall ensure, in consultation with the President, that priority is accorded to the availability of a meeting room and services to facilitate these consultations.	Secretary-General	Provision is being implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
I. Provisions related to interactive/thematic debates				
37.	68/307, para. 10 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 7; 66/294, para. 7;	Recognizes the value of holding interactive inclusive thematic debates on current issues of critical importance to the international community,	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Presidents of the General Assembly regularly make a preliminary announcement of their intention to convene interactive

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
	65/315, para. 6; 64/301, para. 5; 60/286, annex, para. 3; 59/313, para. 3 (a); 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 3; 59/313, para. 12	and encourages the President of the General Assembly to continue this practice in close consultation with the General Committee and the Member States, including with regard to the preliminary programme of such debates, in order to enable an adequate level of participation and an appropriate allocation of time for substantive interactive discussion to facilitate, where appropriate, results-oriented and productive outcomes of such debates.		thematic debates, including in their acceptance speech when elected. Subsequently, they inform Member States by letter of the format and agenda of forthcoming thematic debates whose outcomes are posted on the website of the President of the Assembly. For a list of thematic debates convened during each session, please refer to the websites of the Presidents of the General Assembly.
J. Provisions related to the cooperation between the main organs				
38.	68/307, para. 8 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 10; 65/315, para. 9; 64/301, paras. 7 and 8; 60/286, annex, para. 2; 58/126, annex, para. 6; 55/285, annex, para. 21; and 51/241, annex, para. 43	Reaffirms that the relationship between the principal organs of the United Nations is mutually reinforcing and complementary, in accordance with and with full respect for their respective functions, authority, powers and competencies as enshrined in the Charter, and in this regard stresses the importance of further ensuring increased cooperation, coordination and the exchange of information among the Presidents of the principal organs and also with the Secretariat of the United Nations, in particular the Secretary-General.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
39.	58/126, annex, para. 5	The President of the General Assembly should continue to be briefed regularly by the President of the Security Council on the work of the Council. The President of the Assembly may wish to inform Member States about the substantive issues raised during these meetings.	President of the Security Council, President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council are meeting at monthly intervals.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
K. Provisions related to the implementation and follow-up of resolutions				
40.	68/307, para. 4 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 3; 66/294, para. 3; 65/315, para. 3; and 64/301, para. 3	Decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall continue its review of the inventory of General Assembly resolutions on revitalization annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group submitted at the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly,[a] and, as a result, continue to update the inventory to be attached to the report at the sixty-eighth session.	General Assembly (Ad Hoc Working Group)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. Pursuant to resolution 68/307, the Ad Hoc Working Group has before it an updated version of the inventory.
41.	68/307, para. 5 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 3; 66/294, para. 3; 65/315, para. 3; and 64/301, para. 3	Requests the Secretary-General to submit an update on the provisions of the Assembly resolutions on revitalization addressed to the Secretariat for implementation that have not been implemented, with an indication of the constraints and reasons behind any lack of implementation, for further consideration by the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly.	Secretary-General	Implemented.
42.	59/313, para. 1	Stresses the need to demonstrate political will to ensure the effective implementation of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision does not contain request for specific action.

[a] A/68/951.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
43.	58/126, annex, para. 9	Member States and the Secretariat should consider initiatives that might be taken for better monitoring of the follow-up of resolutions of the General Assembly, such as the provision of timely inputs for reports of the Secretary-General and giving effect to proposals that would advance the follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits.	Member States, Secretary-General	Communications from the Secretary-General have been sent to Member States on an ongoing basis to ask for pertinent information (A/61/483 and A/62/608).

Cluster II: working methods

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	**General provisions related to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly**			
44.	60/286, annex, para. 24 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 14	Requests the Secretary-General to issue the rules of procedure of the General Assembly in a consolidated version in all official languages, in print and online.	Secretary-General	One-time action. The consolidated version of the rules of procedure is set out in document A/520/Rev.16 and Corr.1, both in print and online (A/62/608, p. 15).[b]
45.	60/286, annex, para. 24	Requests the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat to make precedents and past practice available in the public domain with respect to rules and practices of the intergovernmental bodies of the Organization.	Secretary-General, Office of Legal Affairs	Implemented.
B.	**Provisions related to the organization of meetings: Plenary, General Committee, Main Committees**			
46.	68/307, para. 18 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 18 66/294, para. 20; and 65/315, para. 16	Reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairs of the Main Committees, in consultation with the General Committee and Member States, to enhance the coordination of the scheduling of high-level meetings and high-level thematic debates, with a view to optimizing the number especially during the general debate, and distribution of such events throughout the session.	Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly, Main Committee Chairs, Member States	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretariat takes an active role in providing advice, as requested, in the consultations on modalities for high-level plenary meetings, high-level thematic debates and other events scheduled near the general debate, to ensure optimum scheduling and utilization. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management also regularly briefs Member States on arrangements for the forthcoming general debate and other high-level meetings convened in its vicinity. Further, the Executive Office of the Secretary-General has adopted an internal mechanism to ensure the coordination of initiatives emanating from departments and offices of the Secretariat, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations. In October 2013, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provided a briefing to

[b] A revised edition of the rules of procedure has been issued under the symbol A/520/Rev.17.

No	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
				senior staff in other Departments on lessons learned and best practices regarding the organization and scheduling of high-level meetings.
47.	66/294, para. 9 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 8	Welcomes the holding of periodic informal briefings by the Secretary-General and encourages him to continue this practice.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Secretary-General periodically briefs Member States in informal plenary meetings of the General Assembly on his priorities, travels and most recent activities.
48.	59/313, para. 11	Strongly urges all officers presiding over meetings of the General Assembly to start such meetings on time.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. Periodically, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provides presiding officers with statistics on the financial impact of the implementation of this provision (A/61/483, p. 19, and A/62/608).
49.	58/316, annex, para. 1 (b)	With effect from the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, the meetings of the plenary Assembly shall normally be held on Mondays and Thursdays.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Implemented on an ongoing basis, as far as possible.
50.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 2	The work of the Main Committees of the General Assembly might benefit if it is scheduled over two substantive periods during the session. ... With a view to enabling the Assembly to consider changes in this regard, with effect from the sixtieth session of the Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to present, by 1 February 2004, various options for consideration by the General Committee, taking into account the requirements of the relevant intergovernmental bodies and the different locations of their meetings and the budget cycle.	Secretary-General	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Options for the rescheduling of the Main Committees of the General Assembly" (A/58/CRP.3), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session (A/61/483, p. 12, and A/62/608, p. 7).

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
C.	**Provisions related to the general debate**			
51.	68/307, para. 19 *Also in*: 57/301, para. 2; para. 3; 51/241, annex, paras. 19 and 20 (a)	*Reaffirms* resolution 57/301 of 13 March 2003, by which the General Assembly, inter alia, decided that the general debate shall be held without interruption, and encourages the scheduling of future high-level meetings during the first half of the year, from within existing resources, taking into account the calendar of conferences and without prejudice to the current practice of convening one high-level meeting in September at the beginning of each session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	High-level thematic debates and high-level debates organized by the President of the General Assembly are normally scheduled during the first half of the year.
52.	51/241, annex, para. 20 (b)-(e)	The preparation of the list of speakers for the general debate shall be based on the following principles: (b) Member States shall be invited to indicate three preferences for speaking times; (c) Member States wishing to organize or participate in group meetings during the general debate period shall be encouraged to coordinate their responses to the request for preferences and to indicate this transparently in their responses; (d) The Secretariat shall be requested to prepare a list of speakers based on existing traditions and expressions of preference to best accommodate Members' needs;	Secretary-General, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. The preparation of the list is based on the expressions of preference, traditions and internal criteria, e.g., written request by a Member State, level of the representation, previous speaker slot, gender balance, geographical diversity, etc.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		(e) The list of speakers for each day shall be completed and no speakers will be rolled over to the next day, notwithstanding the implications for hours of work.		
D. Provisions related to the conduct of business: time limits on speeches				
53.	59/313, para. 10	Decides that time limits on speeches in the plenary Assembly and in the Main Committees shall be applied in accordance with rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	Member States, Secretary-General, President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat, the President of the General Assembly and Member States, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.
54.	59/313, para. 13	Invites Member States that are aligned with statements already made by the chair of a group of Member States, where possible, to focus additional interventions that they make in their national capacity on points that have not already been adequately addressed in the statements of the group in question, bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.
55.	51/241, annex, para. 22	Outside the general debate there shall be a 15-minute time limit in plenary meetings and in the Main Committees.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Provision to be applied by Member States bearing in mind the sovereign right of each Member State to express its national position.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
E.	**Provisions related to modern technologies**			
56.	68/307, para. 20 *Also in*: 67/297, paras. 20 and 21; 66/294, para. 15 and 23; and 64/301, para. 19	Encourages Member States to make, to the extent possible, full use of the e-services provided by the Secretariat, in order to save costs, reduce the environmental impact and improve the distribution of documents.	Member States	Ongoing provision. All important official communications are transmitted by e-mail and, where delivery is not successful, by fax. As regards United Nations parliamentary documents, these are electronically available through the e-subscription service of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, available from http://undocs.org. Using Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds, the latest edition of the *Journal of the United Nations* and parliamentary documents issued daily at Headquarters can be accessed readily on a computer or handheld smart device. Furthermore, the websites of the Main Committees and subsidiary bodies are regularly updated to facilitate rapid, easy access to pre-session, in-session and post-session documents of those bodies. In the Main Committees, delegations are also increasingly making use of the possibility of circulating their statements electronically through Main Committee websites, or Quickplaces, and reading out shorter remarks. In addition, some Main Committees are using those sites to post advance speakers lists and statements of programme budget implications, as well as national statements. At the request of Member States, a number of these sites have now been made operational year-round, rather than during the main part of the session only.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
57.	66/294, para. 24 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 19; 64/301, para. 21; 63/309, para. 9; 60/286, annex, para. 28; 59/313, para. 15; and 55/285, annex, para. 24 (a)	Decides that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall remain apprised of options for more time-effective, efficient and secure balloting, reiterating the need to ascertain the credibility, reliability and confidentiality of the balloting process, and requests the Secretariat to submit an update in case of any new technological developments, on the understanding that the adoption of any new balloting system in the future will require a decision of the plenary of the General Assembly.	Secretariat, General Assembly (Ad Hoc Working Group)	Implemented on an ongoing basis. The Ad Hoc Working Group receives periodic updates from the Secretariat in case of any new technological developments.
58.	63/309, para. 7	Calls upon Member States to respond to the annual review of the Meetings and Publishing Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management on the distribution of printed documents to Missions, bearing in mind the cost savings, as well as the reduced environmental impact, which may accrue from this exercise, in order to improve the quality and distribution of those documents.	Member States	Ongoing provision. Member States have been responding favourably to the annual review of the Meetings and Publishing Division, resulting in decreased requests for hard copies of parliamentary documents and an increase in the number of requests for e-subscription to digital copies of documents.
59.	55/285, annex, para. 24 (b) and (c)	Taking into account the general support in this regard, the Secretary-General is requested to submit proposals to the General Assembly for its consideration: (b) Wiring of the main conference rooms at Headquarters to provide members of delegations and	Secretary-General	Implemented. The Official Document System is now fully operational. Furthermore, the PaperSmart portal provides electronic access to texts of statements of and reports to Member States and the Secretariat, as well as parliamentary documents in all official languages.

Resolution	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
	the Secretariat with access to the Official Document System and other databases of the Organization, as well as to the Internet, together with electronic access to texts of statements and reports and, in the case of reports, simultaneous access to texts in all official languages; (c) Other areas of the work of the Assembly in which the use of modern technology and information technology would contribute to enhancing efficiency in its working methods.		
51/241, annex, para. 45	The Secretary-General is requested to pursue an information technology plan with a range of options to provide all permanent missions to the United Nations and the wider public with online access to documents and relevant United Nations information. Unless the General Assembly decides otherwise, hard copies of documents shall continue to be distributed to permanent missions in accordance with their needs. While welcoming the progress made by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council, further efforts in this direction could be pursued within a specified time frame to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems. All countries, in particular developing countries, shall be assisted in making full use	Secretary-General	Implemented. The Official Document System has been fully operational and accessible. In addition to electronic means, hard copies continue to be distributed to Permanent Missions as requested. Further, a range of options including online access (in and beyond conference rooms), print-on-demand hard copies, knowledge management and video training is being implemented through PaperSmart. The PaperSmart team is also undertaking further studies and assessments. Regarding the reference to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics of the Economic and Social Council, the last time the Council had before it a report on the matter was in 2011. At that time, the Council took note of said report, but no proposal was submitted to it for consideration. The last time the item was on the agenda was in 2012. No documentation and no proposal were submitted to the Economic and Social Council for consideration.

No	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
		of this potential access. Adequate provision should be made for training delegates. Facilities for such access by delegations within the United Nations premises shall also be expanded as much as possible. Availability of information in this manner should be ensured in all official languages of the United Nations.		
61.	51/241, annex, para. 46	The Secretary-General is encouraged to include information on the impact of technological improvements in his report on the implementation of mandates, by means of comparing outputs with objectives.	Secretary-General	See comments for provisions 58 and 59 above. In addition, recording and assessment of indicators and outputs is currently being undertaken by the PaperSmart team.
F.	**Provisions related to documentation: resolutions (See also part I)**			
62.	66/294, para. 21 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 17	Encourages Member States, United Nations bodies and the Secretariat to continue to consult on the consolidation of documentation in order to avoid duplication of work, to exercise the fullest possible discipline in striving for concise resolutions, reports and other documentation, inter alia, by referring to previous documents rather than repeating actual content, and to focus on key themes.	Member States, Secretariat	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. This issue is frequently examined in a number of intergovernmental bodies.
G.	**Provisions related to documentation: consolidation of reports (See also part I)**			
63.	60/286, annex, para. 29 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 16;	Requests the Secretary-General to implement further the measures set out in paragraph 20 of resolution 57/300 on the consolidation of reports and in paragraph 6	Secretary-General	In response to the provision formulated in resolution 57/300, the Secretariat has issued a note entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7).

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
	58/316, annex, para. 6 (c); and 58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 7	of the annex to resolution 58/316 on documentation.		Since the adoption of this resolution, a number of reports, where appropriate, have been consolidated (A/61/483, p. 21, and A/62/608). The Main Committees regularly examine the issue of consolidation of documentation, particularly when considering their working methods in the context of the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.
64.	59/313, para. 16 *Also in:* 58/316, annex, para. 6	In the light of its decision in section B, paragraph 7, of the annex to resolution 58/126 that the heavy volume of documentation that is submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration should be reduced, the Secretary-General is requested: (a) To update the note by the Secretariat, entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7) in the light of the provisions of the present resolution; (b) To submit the updated version of the note by the Secretariat for the consideration of the General Committee, meeting in open-ended consultations, so that it may make recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.	Secretary-General	In response to the provision formulated in resolution 57/300, the Secretariat has issued a note entitled "Control and limitation of documentation" (A/58/CRP.7). The note has not been updated, lacking the endorsement of Member States.
65.	55/285, annex, para. 16	In preparing the annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the secretariat of the Assembly, in consultation with the substantive departments of the Secretariat, should look for synergies and integration of reports.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. The annual memorandum concerning the implementation of the resolutions contains a paragraph on the need for possible integration of reports.

No	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
H.	**Provisions related to the preparation and issuance of reports (See also part I)**			
66.	66/294, para. 21 *Also in*: 59/313, para. 18; and 49/221 B, para. 6 (c)	Calls upon Member States, United Nations bodies, and the Secretariat to observe existing submission deadlines so as to allow for the timely processing of documents to be examined by intergovernmental bodies.	Member States, Secretariat	Ongoing provision. In response to this request, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management has entered into a compact with the Secretary-General which provides for zero tolerance of late submission of documents (A/61/483 and A/62/608).
67.	55/285, annex, para. 18	The Secretary-General is requested to make further suggestions as to how to speed up the preparation of reports and to rationalize the scheduling of meetings. The Secretary-General shall keep the President of the General Assembly and the General Committee informed on this issue on a regular basis throughout the sessions of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	The Secretary-General continues to make recommendations in his memorandums on organization of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (see the most recent one, A/BUR/68/1).
68.	59/313, para. 17	Encourages Member States, when seeking additional information, to request that they be provided with the information either orally or, if in writing, in the form of information sheets, annexes, tables and the like, and encourages the wider use of this practice.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.
69.	55/285, annex, para. 17	Member States and entities of the United Nations system should make a serious effort to submit their replies and inputs to requests for information or views pursuant to resolutions of the General Assembly within the prescribed deadlines.	Member States	Provision to be implemented by the Member States.

No	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
I.	**Provisions related to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (See also part I)**			
70.	55/285, annex, para. 14 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 7	As regards implementation of paragraph 7 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly, after consideration by the Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, shall inform the Assembly of his assessment of the debate on the report in order for the Assembly to determine the need for further action.	President of the General Assembly	According to practice, the Secretary-General introduces his report at the beginning of the general debate. Consequently, the President of the General Assembly presents his assessment at the conclusion of the general debate. Any additional assessment by the President is provided after plenary meetings of the General Assembly.
71.	51/241, annex, para. 4	The introduction to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be in the nature of an executive summary highlighting main issues.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented by the Secretariat. The introduction to the report on the work of the Organization is presented in the form of an executive summary highlighting the main issues.
72.	51/241, annex, para. 5 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The main body of the report shall be comprehensive, informative and analytical in a way that will allow Member States to examine and assess, inter alia, through the debate on the report, the extent to which mandates given by the General Assembly have been fulfilled, as well as to set priorities in the context of the major political, economic and social, administrative and financial issues on its agenda.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on an ongoing basis.
73.	51/241, annex, para. 6 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The Secretary-General shall incorporate a forward-looking section in his report on the work of the Organization. It shall describe the specific goals for the Secretariat in the year ahead in the context of the workplan for the	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		Organization in the coming year, taking into account the medium-term plan and the fact that the responsibility for establishing priorities rests with the Member States.		
74.	51/241, annex, para. 9 *Also in*: 55/285, annex, para. 13	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization shall, inter alia, contain an analytical and concise annex elaborating the costs by major programmes and activities of all bodies of the United Nations system, located both in and outside New York, according to their mandates, so as to improve Member States' overview of system-wide issues.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat.
75.	51/241, annex, para. 3	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization should be available not later than 30 days prior to the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly in all official languages of the Organization so as to permit due consideration.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretariat. During the sixty-second session the report was not available within the deadline requested.
76.	51/241, annex, para. 7	The report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization shall be considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly immediately after the general debate.	Secretary-General/ Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented by the Secretariat on an ongoing basis. The report is considered in plenary meetings of the General Assembly immediately after the general debate.
77.	51/241, annex, para. 10	The Secretary-General is requested to introduce the report orally at an appropriate time under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".	Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis by the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General introduces his report orally under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization".

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
J.	**Provisions related to the agenda of the General Assembly**			
78.	68/307, para. 16 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 15; 66/294, para. 18; 65/315, para. 14; 64/301, para. 18; and 63/309, para. 6	Emphasizes that the General Assembly and its Main Committees, at the sixty-ninth session, in consultation with Member States, should continue its consideration of and make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items on the agenda of the Assembly, including through the introduction of a sunset clause, with the clear consent of the sponsoring State or States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Working Group.	Member States (General Assembly), Main Committees	Ongoing provision. Over the course of recent sessions, some Main Committees have indicated that they do not see the possibility for further clustering or elimination of items at this stage. Others have developed the practice of holding joint debates on items that have sub-items.
79.	58/316, annex, para. 2 (a) and (d)	(a) Pursuant to paragraph 4 of section B of the annex to resolution 58/126, the agenda of the General Assembly shall be organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 (or in the strategic framework, as appropriate), with an additional heading for "Organizational, administrative and other matters"; (d) The provisions of the present section shall be reviewed by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session with a view to making further improvements, as appropriate.	Secretary-General, Member States (General Assembly)	One-time action. As from the fifty-ninth session, the agenda of the General Assembly has been organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, as contained in the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and, subsequently, in accordance with the strategic framework for the period 2006-2007, with an additional heading I, entitled "Organizational, administrative and other matters" (A/61/483, p. 13, and A/62/608). During the sixty-first session no revision was made by the General Assembly.

No	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
80.	58/316, annex, para. 4	Provisions related to allocation of agenda items (for details see resolution 58/316, para. 4).	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions of this paragraph have been implemented as from the fifty-ninth session and reflected in the agenda of each session (A/62/608, and resolution 58/316, para. 4).
81.	55/285, annex, paras. 3-9	Provisions related to clustering of agenda items concerning cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.	Member States/ Secretary-General	One-time action. Provision implemented as requested and reflected in the agenda of each session.
82.	55/285, annex, paras. 10 and 11	Provisions related to biennialization of agenda items (for details see resolution 55/285, paras. 10 and 11).	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions have been implemented as requested.
83.	55/285, annex, para. 12	The following item shall be considered by the Third Committee, starting at the fifty-sixth session: "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly".	Member States, Secretary-General	One-time action. The provisions have been implemented as requested.
84.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 4	With a view to better conceptualization of the content of the agenda of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General is requested to submit to the Assembly, for its consideration by 1 March 2004, an illustrative agenda of the Assembly, based on all the agenda items of the fifty-eighth session, organized around the priorities of the Organization for the period 2002-2005. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the illustrative agenda before	Secretary-General, General Committee	One-time action. In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Illustrative agenda of the General Assembly" (A/58/CRP.4), which the Assembly considered at its fifty-eighth session (A/61/483, p. 12). See also comments for provision 39 above.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.		
85.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 5	The President of the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and following consultations with concerned Member States, is requested to make proposals for the further biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items of the customary agenda of the Assembly for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the proposals before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	President of the General Assembly	One-time action. Subsequent to the adoption of resolution 58/126, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Analysis of the agenda of the General Assembly" which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations.
86.	55/285, annex, para. 2 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 24	The rationalization and streamlining of the agenda of the General Assembly should continue in order to enable the Assembly to focus its work on priority issues. Any change or suggestion concerning the agenda is made with the understanding that Member States may at any time propose any issue or item for the attention and consideration of the Assembly.	Member States (General Assembly)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
87.	51/241, annex, para. 23	Bearing in mind rule 81 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the requirements for reopening debate on an agenda item which the Assembly had decided was completed will continue to be as at present and should be made clear to delegations through a statement from the President of the Assembly. A delegation wishing to reopen debate on an agenda item should send a written request to the President of the Assembly. The President will then undertake soundings to ascertain whether the request enjoys wide support. In the light of these soundings, the President shall announce in the *Journal of the United Nations* the date of the meeting of the Assembly to consider the question of reopening debate on the item, bearing in mind the requirements of rule 81.	Member States (General Assembly), President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. See also: rule 81.
88.	51/241, annex, para. 25	As a general rule, agenda items that could be considered in the Main Committees shall be referred to the Main Committees rather than the General Assembly in plenary meetings.	General Assembly, Secretary-General	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
K.	**Provisions related to practices and working methods of the Main Committees of the General Assembly (See also part I)**			
89.	68/307, para. 13 *Also in*: 60/286, annex, para. 25; and 59/313, para. 8	Appreciates the briefings by the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly to the Ad Hoc Working Group about the working methods of their respective Committees	Main Committees	Main Committees periodically hold informal meetings on their working methods. Quickplace sites provide a tool for Main Committees to facilitate their work. In the past, some of the Main Committees explored ways and

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		during the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and in this regard encourages the Main Committees:		possibilities of enhancing their cooperation. For instance, during the sixtieth and sixty-first sessions there were joint meetings of the bureaux of the Second and Third Committees.
		(a) To ensure adequate coordination in their work while avoiding overlap and duplication;		
		(b) To elect the bureau of each Committee at least three months in advance of the session for better coordination and for smoother handover of their work;		
		(c) To benefit from their respective intranet and other online services to facilitate the smooth organization and timely conclusion of their work;		
		(d) To share experiences, best practices and lessons learned concerning their respective working methods;		
		(e) To further enhance sharing of information on the work and activities of the Main Committees within each Main Committee.		
90.	68/307, para. 14 *Also in:* 67/297, para. 13; 66/294, para. 19; and 65/315, para. 15	Requests each Main Committee to further discuss its working methods at the beginning of every session, and in this regard invites the Chairs of the Main Committees to brief the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session on any best practices and lessons learned with a view to improving working methods, as appropriate.	Main Committees, Main Committee Chairs	Implemented on an ongoing basis. Briefings were provided to the Ad Hoc Working Group by Main Committee Chairs in the sixty-fifth, sixty-sixth, sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions. Briefings are also expected during the sixty-ninth session.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
91.	59/313, annex, para. 9	Requests the Chairpersons of the Main Committees, at the end of their terms of office, to provide a short report on their observations and "lessons learned" to their immediate successors.	Main Committees	Provision is implemented by Main Committees on an ongoing basis. The observations and "lessons learned" are presented during the informal meetings between incoming and outgoing bureaux of the respective committees.
92.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (a) *Also in*: 59/313, para. 7; and 51/241, annex, para. 26	Main Committees shall give specific attention to the rationalization of their future agendas by the biennialization, triennialization, clustering and elimination of items, and make recommendations to the plenary Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.	Main Committees	In response to this request, the Main Committees at the fifty-ninth and sixtieth sessions made recommendations to the Assembly.
93.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (b) *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 30	Main Committees shall adopt a provisional programme of work at the end of the session for the next session to help them better to plan, prepare and organize and, in this context, review the related documentation requirements.	Main Committees	Implemented as from the fifty-ninth session (information on the programme of work of the Fifth Committee is usually not available owing to the time frame of the Committee's work) (A/61/483, p. 14, and A/62/608).
94.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (c)	The practice of interactive debates and panel discussions shall be utilized or expanded, as appropriate, by all Main Committees so as to enhance informal, in-depth discussions and to bring together experts from various fields without prejudicing the progress of the substantive work of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Provision is being implemented on an ongoing basis. The Committees make extensive use of interactive debates and panels; for example, panel meetings are of particular importance for the work of the Second Committee.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
95.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (d) *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 53	The practice of "question time" shall be introduced, as appropriate, in all Main Committees to enable a dynamic and candid exchange with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General and special rapporteurs.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. As from the fifty-ninth session, Main Committees introduced the "question time", which has a significant importance for their work.
96.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (e)	The websites of the Main Committees shall be enhanced and thereafter regularly updated and their content maintained by the secretariats of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The websites of the Main Committees continue to be enhanced and regularly updated by the respective secretariats (A/61/483, p. 15, and A/62/608).
97.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (f)	The bureaux-elect of the Main Committees shall meet immediately after their election in order to discuss the organization and division of their work.	Main Committees	Ongoing provision. Provision implemented as from the fifty-eighth session.
98.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (g)	With a view to ensuring the continuity and the effective organization of their work, the incoming bureaux of the Main Committees shall, no later than two weeks after their election, meet with the outgoing bureaux in order to consult on and review issues relating to the efficient functioning of the Main Committees.	Main Committees	Implemented by most of the Main Committees as from the fifty-eighth session.
99.	58/316, annex, para. 3 (h) *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 30	Prior to the opening of each session, informal briefings of each Main Committee shall be convened to discuss the organization of work.	Main Committees	Implemented as from the fifty-ninth session.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
100.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 8	The Main Committees of the General Assembly are bound by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, although they have different practices and working methods. With a view to identifying best practices and working methods, and recognizing the ongoing efforts of the Main Committees to streamline their work, the Secretary-General, drawing on the experience of previous Chairmen of the Main Committees, is requested to submit a historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees for the consideration of the General Committee by 1 April 2004. The General Committee shall hold open-ended discussions on the note before making recommendations on the matter to the Assembly for its decision by 1 July 2004.	Secretary-General	In response to this request, the Secretariat circulated a note entitled "Historical and analytical note on the practices and working methods of the Main Committees" (A/58/CRP.5), which was considered by the General Committee in open-ended informal consultations (A/61/483, p. 13, and A/62/608).
101.	51/241, annex, para. 51	There shall be a more detailed and structured examination in the Main Committees of the relevant reports of the Board of Auditors, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Office of Internal Oversight Services in relation to the substantive work of these Committees.	Main Committees	The reports are examined in the Main Committees on an ad hoc basis, if necessary.
102.	51/241, annex, para. 31	The Main Committees shall meet in substantive session only after the end of the general debate.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
103.	51/241, annex, para. 36	The First Committee and the Fourth Committee shall not meet simultaneously and may consider meeting in a sequential manner during the regular session of the General Assembly. This arrangement shall not apply if it affects their respective identities, programmes of work and effective consideration of their agendas.	Main Committees	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The secretaries of the First and Fourth Committees undertake consultation for the purpose of avoiding simultaneous meetings.
L.	**Provisions related to the General Committee (See also part I)**			
104.	60/286, annex, para. 27 *Also in*: 58/316, annex, para. 5 (b)	Reiterates its call for the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	General Committee	Since the adoption of resolution 58/316, the General Committee has met throughout the session of the General Assembly.
105.	51/241, annex, para. 33	The General Committee shall use its authority and competence, taking into account rule 43 of the rules of procedure, by allowing Member States that are not represented on the General Committee to participate in its discussions. The process of decision-making will continue to be as at present.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
106.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (a)	The work of the General Committee shall be carried out in accordance with section VI of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	Resolution	Text of the provision	Implementing entity	Comments
107.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (b)	The General Committee shall continue to meet throughout the session and to play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work.	General Committee	Since the adoption of resolution 58/316, the General Committee has met throughout the session of the General Assembly and played its leading role in advising the Assembly in the organization of its work.
108.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (c)	To ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the General Committee shall meet regularly throughout the session with the bureaux of the Main Committees to review the progress of the work of the Main Committees and to make recommendations for furthering such progress.	General Committee	Since the adoption of the provision, the General Committee has met throughout the sessions of the General Assembly to ensure the effective implementation of rule 42 of the rules of procedure. Main Committee Chairs regularly briefed the General Committee on the work of their Committees.
109.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (d)	In July of each year, the General Committee shall conduct a review of the proposed programme of work for the forthcoming session of the General Assembly, on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, and submit recommendations on the matter to the forthcoming Assembly. The report of the Secretary-General shall include information on the status of documentation to be issued during the forthcoming session.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. In response to this request, the Secretary-General annually submits reports to the General Assembly, including the requested information on the status of documentation.
110.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (f)	On the basis of proposals from the President of the General Assembly, and in the light of the positive experience during the fifty-eighth session, the General Committee shall be encouraged, as appropriate,	General Committee	At the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions, the General Committee held a number of informal briefings on topical issues. Owing to the rising number of thematic debates, the practice of informal briefings in the General Committee has been limited to avoid duplication.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		to continue to schedule informal briefings on topical issues.		
111.	58/316, annex, para. 5 (h)	The General Committee shall continue to consider ways and means to further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects, and make recommendations on the matter to the General Assembly for its decision by 1 April 2005.	General Committee	The General Committee continues to consider ways and means of improving its working methods. No recommendation has been made in that regard since the adoption of this provision.
112.	58/126, annex, sect. B, para. 1	The General Committee shall meet throughout the session and further improve its working methods to increase its efficiency and effectiveness. It will play the leading role in advising the General Assembly on the efficient organization, coordination and management of its work. In this connection, the Assembly will also consider proposals to reform the General Committee.	General Committee	The General Assembly, at its fifty-eighth session, adopted resolution 58/316, by which, inter alia, it decided on a number of measures with regard to the reform of the General Committee.
113.	55/285, annex, para. 20	In order to enhance the capacity of the General Committee to assist the President of the General Assembly in the conduct of the business of the Assembly and to improve continuity between its different sessions, at the outset of each session, each Vice-President of the Assembly shall designate a liaison person for the duration of the session. This designation may be made informally, without any amendment to rule 39 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, by means of a letter to its President.	General Committee	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of the provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
114.	51/241, annex, para. 34	The General Committee may, each year, prior to the closure of the session, prepare suggestions based on its experience for the consideration of the incoming General Committee.	General Committee	Suggestions have been made on an ongoing basis during informal meetings between the incoming and outgoing General Committees.
115.	51/241, annex, para. 35	The General Committee is requested to consider and recommend to the General Assembly methods and procedures for streamlining and rationalizing the Committee's work. The General Committee shall, in this context, in relation to each agenda item proposed, consider its rejection or its inclusion in the provisional agenda, taking into account previous recommendations of the General Committee and previous relevant decisions of the Assembly.	General Committee	Provisions to be implemented by the General Committee.

Cluster III: selection and appointment of the Secretary-General and other executive heads

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	**General provision related to the selection of the Secretary-General (See part I)**			
B.	**Provisions related to the selection process (See also part I)**			
116.	68/307, para. 25 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 23; 66/294, para. 25; 65/315, para. 20; and 64/301, para. 14	Reaffirms its commitment to continue, in the Ad Hoc Working Group, in accordance with the provisions of Article 97 of the Charter, its consideration of the revitalization of the role of the General Assembly in the selection and appointment of the Secretary-General, and calls for the full implementation of all relevant resolutions, including resolutions 11 (I) of 24 January 1946, 51/241 of 31 July 1997, 60/286 of 8 September 2006, in particular paragraphs 17 to 22 of the annex thereto, and 64/301 of 13 September 2010, keeping in mind the applicable procedures in the rules of procedure, including rule 141, while acknowledging existing relevant Assembly practices.	Ad Hoc Working Group, Member States	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Ad Hoc Working Group has devoted a thematic meeting in each of its recent sessions to this issue.
117.	68/307, para. 28 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 26; 60/286, annex, para. 18; and 51/241, annex, paras. 56 and 59	Stresses the need to ensure equal and fair distribution based on gender and geographical balance, while meeting the highest possible requirements on the appointment of executive heads of the Organization.	Member States (General Assembly, Security Council)	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
C.	**Provisions related to the appointment and duration of the term (See also part I)**			
118.	60/286, annex, para. 21 *Also in*: 51/241, annex, para. 61	Recalls paragraph 61 of its resolution 51/241, in which it is stated that, in order to ensure a smooth and efficient transition, the Secretary-General should be appointed as early as possible, preferably no later than one month before the date on which the term of the incumbent expires.	General Assembly, Security Council	The provision is being implemented to the extent possible.

Cluster IV: strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the General Assembly

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
A.	**Provisions related to the competencies of the President of the General Assembly**			
119.	68/307, para. 31 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 27; 66/294, para. 29; 65/315, para. 24; 64/301, para. 13; and 63/309, para. 4	Encourages the Presidents of the General Assembly to continue with the practice of periodically briefing Member States on their activities, including official travels.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
120.	68/307, para. 33	Encourages exchanges between the President-elect of the General Assembly and the Council of Presidents so that Presidents-elect may benefit from the experiences of former Presidents in terms of best practices and lessons learned, as part of strengthening the institutional memory of the Office of the President of the Assembly.	President of the General Assembly	Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis.
121.	67/297, para. 32 *Also in*: 66/294, para. 36; 65/315, para. 28; 64/301, para. 17; and 60/286, annex, para. 9	Requests the outgoing Presidents of the General Assembly to brief their successors on the lessons learned and best practices, and requests the Secretariat, in coordination with the Office of the President of the Assembly, to explore the possibility of issuing a compendium of best practices of past Presidents, from within existing resources, which could serve to strengthen the institutional memory of the Office.		Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.

No.	Resolution	Text of provision	Implementing entity	Comments
122.	68/307, para. 40 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 29	Requests the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the Secretariat, to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly on the role, mandate and activities of the President.	President of the General Assembly, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	See briefing by Arthur Kafeero, Chief de Cabinet of the President of the General Assembly of the sixty-ninth session, at the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group during the sixty-ninth session, on 12 May 2015.
123.	58/126, annex, para. 7	In June of each year, the President-elect of the General Assembly, after taking into account the views provided by Member States and following consultations with the incumbent President and the Secretary-General, will suggest an issue, or issues, of global concern upon which Member States will be invited to comment during the general debate at the forthcoming session of the Assembly. The views provided by Member States should also be summarized and circulated to Member States. Such suggestions regarding the issue(s) for comment will be without prejudice to the sovereign right of Member States to solely and entirely determine the content of their general debate statements.	President of the General Assembly	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis.
B.	**Provisions related to the financial, logistic and technical support for the President of the General Assembly (See also part I)**			
124.	68/307, para. 39 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 28; 66/294, para. 33; and 64/301, para. 12	Stresses the importance of the contributions of Member States to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly, and in this regard notes with appreciation contributions that have been	Member States	Since the adoption of resolution 66/294, a number of contributions have been made to the Trust Fund in support of the Office of the President of the General Assembly. Further, each incoming President of the Assembly is briefed about the Fund and its modalities.

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
		made to the Fund and encourages Member States to continue to contribute to the Fund.		
125.	68/307, para. 34	Encourages Presidents-elect to continue to ensure respect for balanced gender and geographical representation in the Office of the President of the General Assembly.		Provision to be implemented on an ongoing basis.
126.	68/307, para. 35 *Also in*: 67/297, para. 30; 66/294, para. 34; and 65/315, para. 26	Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly on sources of the funding and staffing of the Office of the President of the Assembly, including on any technical, logistical, protocol-related or financial questions, and for more clarification on the budgetary basis for the provision of such support by the Secretariat.	Secretary-General	To be implemented at the sixty-eighth session. (The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management reported the pertinent information in a briefing to the Ad Hoc Working Group at the sixty-eighth session.)
127.	66/294, para. 35 *Also in*: 65/315, para. 27; 64/301, para. 11; and 59/313, para. 3 (d)	Requests the Secretary-General to further endeavour to ensure, within agreed resources, that the President of the General Assembly is provided with proper protocol and security services and adequate office space, with a view to enabling the President of the Assembly to carry out his or her functions in a manner commensurate with the dignity and stature of the Office.	Secretary-General	The Department of Safety and Security continues to provide close protection coverage for the President of the General Assembly from within existing resources, and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management continues to provide protocol services to the Office of the President of the General Assembly. In addition, new office space has been made available to the Office in the renovated conference building.
128.	68/307, para. 36 *Also in*: 67/297, paras. 31 and 32; 66/294, para. 36; 65/315,	Emphasizes the need to ensure, from within agreed resources, that the Office of the President of the General Assembly is allocated dedicated Secretariat staff, with responsibility for coordinating the transition	Secretariat, Department for General Assembly and Conference Management	Provision implemented on an ongoing basis. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management provides technical, procedural and substantive support to the Office of the President of the General Assembly throughout the year and also briefs Presidents-elect

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
	para. 28; 63/309, para. 5; and 60/286, annex, para. 9	between Presidents, managing interactions between the President of the Assembly and the Secretary-General and the retention of institutional memory.		and their teams on the work of the forthcoming session. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management is also the focal point for the institutional memory of the work and practices of the General Assembly within the Secretariat.
129.	59/313, para. 3 (b)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (b) Augmenting the resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly from within existing resources, subject to consideration by the Assembly of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007, to provide for two further additional posts at management and senior levels to be filled on an annual basis following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the sixtieth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented as from the sixtieth session (A/61/483, p. 18).
130.	58/126, annex, para. 10	The resources available to the Office of the President of the General Assembly in personnel and other support shall be augmented from within existing resources, bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 22 of the annex to resolution 55/285. Five additional posts shall be made available to supplement current support, of which three shall be filled on an annual basis, following consultations with the incoming President, beginning at the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Provision implemented as from the fifty-ninth session (A/61/483, p. 11, and A/62/608).

No.	*Resolution*	*Text of provision*	*Implementing entity*	*Comments*
131.	55/285, annex, para. 22 *Also in:* 51/241, annex, para. 44	Additional measures are required to implement paragraph 44 of the annex to resolution 51/241, in particular in the area of substantive support for the President of the General Assembly. Therefore, adequate support should be made available to the Office of the President in the substantive areas of its work. To this end, the Secretary-General is requested to take appropriate measures and to submit proposals to the relevant committees for their consideration during the fifty-sixth session of the Assembly.	Secretary-General	Implemented on an ongoing basis. See also other relevant provisions.
132.	59/313, para. 3 (c)	Decides to strengthen the role and leadership of the President of the General Assembly by: (c) Making available to the President of the General Assembly adequate office and conference space with a view to enabling the President to carry out his/her functions in a manner commensurate with the dignity and stature of the Office.	Secretary-General	As of the sixty-eighth session, new office space has been made available to the Office of the President in the renovated conference building.
133.	60/286, annex, para. 11 *Also in:* 58/126, annex, para. 11	Requests the Secretary-General to continue to make the necessary arrangements for the provision of transitional office accommodation and other support to the President-elect of the General Assembly, in accordance with resolution 58/126.	Secretary-General	Beginning with the fifty-ninth session, transitional office space and other support have been provided to the Presidents-elect (A/61/483, p. 11, and A/62/608, p. 6).-